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Venus crashes out in the opening round

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NEARBY

SIT searches Thimarody's house

MANGALURU
The SIT probing the alleged mass burials in Dharmasthala took the complainant to the residence of activist Mahesh Shetty Thimarody on Tuesday, and searched the house. Mr. Thimarody is said to have sheltered the complainant before the team arrested him on August 23. » PAGE 8

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THE HINDU
greets its readers
on the occasion of
Vinayaka Chathurthi
There will be no issue of
THE HINDU
dated August 28, 2025 as
Vinayaka Chathurthi is a holiday
Readers can access the online edition at
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India braces for impact of 50% U.S. tariffs from today

No comment from Centre on any plans for counter-tariffs or other measures against the U.S.; PM pushes Swadeshi mantra; exporters estimate goods worth more than $47 billion will be affected

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Tariff travails

While the Indian government is now pushing a Swadeshi mantra to reduce the economy's reliance on exports, Indian exporters are bracing themselves for a sharp fall in business with the United States of America

Market loss: 55% of Indian exports rendered **uncompetitive compared to neighbouring countries**, warns FIEO

Sectors to be hit: Apparel, textiles, gems and jewellery, shrimp, carpets, and furniture

Extent of impact: Imports from these sectors could **plunge 70%**

- India stands by its statement that these tariffs are **'unreasonable'**
- PM Narendra Modi to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping on August 30

The United States government is getting ready to implement the 25% additional tariffs imposed on India by U.S. President Donald Trump, which come into effect on Wednesday. On Tuesday, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) uploaded a notification of the new tariffs to be published in the official register the following day.

The Indian government is pushing a Swadeshi mantra to reduce the economy's reliance on exports, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday calling upon Indians to be "vocal for local" and buy Indian goods. Indian exporters, however, are bracing themselves for a sharp fall in business to the U.S., with early estimates predicting that more than $47 billion worth of goods will face the 50% tariff rate. This includes the 25% tariff that Indian imports have attracted since August 7 plus an additional 25% tariff imposed as a penalty for India's import of oil from Russia.

This additional tariff will not apply to iron, steel, or aluminium products; passenger vehicles such as sedans, sport utility vehicles, crossover utility vehicles, minivans, cargo vans, and light trucks; semi-finished copper, and intensive copper derivative products, among others.

The Ministry of External Affairs did not comment on whether India is planning any counter-measures or counter-tariffs against the United States, though a senior official said that India stands by the MEA's earlier statement calling the sanctions "unfair, unjustified and unreasonable".

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SC asks why judiciary can't review inaction of Governors on Bills

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

If courts can review a Governor's recommendation for President's Rule, why cannot the judiciary examine a Governor for sitting on crucial State Bills for years together, Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai, heading a Presidential Reference Bench, asked the Centre and BJP-ruled States on Tuesday.

"If the discretion exercised by a Governor under Article 356 of the Constitution can be judicially reviewed, why not the discretion under Article 200?" Chief Justice Gavai responded with a question to a submission made by the State of Maharashtra, represented by senior advocate Neeraj Kishan Kaul, about the "wide" discretionary powers of Governors.

Article 356 of the Constitution covers the circumstances leading to the President's Rule in a State. The President's decision is based on a report given by the Governor about the failure of the constitutional machinery of the State.

Article 200 deals with the Governor's power to deal with State Bills placed before him for assent.

> If the discretion exercised by a Governor under Article 356 of the Constitution can be judicially reviewed, why not the discretion under Article 200?
>
> **JUSTICE B.R. GAVAI**
> Chief Justice of India

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Australia cites 'anti-Semitic attacks' to cut ties with Iran

Associated Press
MELBOURNE

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese accused Iran of organising two anti-Semitic attacks in Australia and said the country was cutting off diplomatic relations with Tehran in response on Tuesday.

The Australian Security Intelligence Organization (ASIO) concluded the Iranian government had directed arson attacks on the Lewis Continental Kitchen, a kosher food company, in Sydney in October last year, and on the Adass Israel Synagogue in Melbourne in December last year, Mr. Albanese said.

He added that Australia will legislate to list Iran's Revolutionary Guard as a terrorist organisation.

Iran's government denied the allegations.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

9 pilgrims among 13 killed in Jammu floods; Vaishno Devi journey halted

Water woes: Structures partially submerged following heavy rainfall in Udhampur on Tuesday. PTI

Press Trust of India
JAMMU/SRINAGAR

Rivers overflowed across the Jammu region on Tuesday, the raging waters flattening everything in their way as boulders, trees and rocks hurtled down slopes, killing at least 13 people, including nine pilgrims struck by a landslide on the Vaishno Devi route. The pilgrimage to the Vaishno Devi shrine has been suspended.

Traffic was suspended on the Jammu-Srinagar and Kishtwar-Doda national highways, and dozens of hill roads were damaged by landslides.

FULL REPORT » PAGE 12

DKS apologises for singing RSS anthem in Legislative Assembly

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

KPCC president and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who had sparked a controversy by singing a stanza of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) anthem in the Legislative Assembly last week, tendered an apology on Tuesday to Congress workers and INDIA bloc leaders. However, he maintained that he had not done anything wrong.

Reiterating his loyalty to the Congress party since 1980 and the Gandhi family, Mr. Shivakumar said, "None in my high command has asked me to submit an apology."

During a debate initiated by the Opposition BJP on the stampede during RCB's victory celebrations in Bengaluru, Mr. Shivakumar had sung a stanza of the RSS prayer to "pull the BJP leaders' legs'

D.K. Shivakumar

Addressing a press conference to clear the air about him singing the RSS anthem, Mr. Shivakumar said, "I haven't praised the RSS. It is my job to learn about my opponents. I sang a few lines of the RSS anthem in the Assembly to pull the leg of Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok. I was only trying to tell Mr. Ashok that I know his background. But, some people have taken out only the anthem without the context and are trying to misuse it, and confuse the public."

"My loyalty to the Congress and the Gandhi family cannot be questioned by anyone. I was born a Congressman and will die as a Congressman," said the trouble-shooter of the Congress in Karnataka.

"I have identified myself with the Congress as a student leader from 1979. I am not new to the party and I don't need any lecture from anyone. I am the person who even names my touring talkies as 'Indira talkies'. My relationship with the Gandhi family and the Congress party is akin to God and disciple relationship," he said.

"Before joining politics and joining the NSUI," he said, "I studied about the NSUI, Congress, Gandhi family, the contribution of the Gandhi family, the history of Congress, history of RSS, BJP, JD(S), Communist party and various political parties in the country."

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 9

Quad talks on agenda when Modi meets Japan PM Ishiba

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

The Quad grouping is an "important platform" on the agenda for talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba at the 15th India-Japan Annual Summit to be held in Tokyo on Friday, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said on Tuesday.

Mr. Misri's remarks indicated that the grouping still holds relevance despite tension in India-U.S. ties over President Donald Trump's decision to slap 50% tariffs on Indian goods. He did not explicitly confirm whether India will hold the Quad Summit this year when asked whether Mr. Modi would invite Mr. Ishiba for it.

Vikram Misri

Meanwhile, officials said they are still "finalising" the joint declaration at the 11-nation SCO Summit, which will include Russian President Vladimir Putin, Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian. India hopes a strong statement on "cross-border" terrorism will be included, after SCO Defence Ministers failed to reach consensus over references to the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor in June, which were objected to by Pakistan.

At a briefing on Mr. Modi's upcoming visit to Japan (August 29-30) and China (August 31-September 1), Mr. Misri said that the visit to Japan was significant as this was Mr. Modi's first such summit with Mr. Ishiba, who took charge last year, and his first bilateral visit to Japan since 2018.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Greater Bengaluru Authority comes into effect; Maheshwar Rao is named Commissioner

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government on Tuesday constituted the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) chaired by the Chief Minister and co-chaired by the Bengaluru Development Minister. The GBA will come into effect immediately, the order said.

While the city's civic limits will be divided into five corporations on September 2, the GBA will be the pan city body tasked with coordination between multiple corporations and parastatals.

The government also issued an order on Tuesday naming M. Maheshwar Rao, at present the Chief Commissioner of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), as Chief Commissioner, GBA.

Bengaluru's civic limits will be divided into five corporations on September 2. FILE PHOTO

The GBA has three officials – Chief Commissioner, who is the member secretary of the GBA, a chief town planner and chief engineer. However, the GBA, which is also tasked with balancing revenue imbalance between multiple corporations, doesn't have a post in-charge of finance.

The GBA has all 28 MLAs, four Lok Sabha MPs, 11 MLCs and six Rajya Sabha members with their votes in Bengaluru, including Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, as members. It also has mayors and commissioners of the five corporations in the city, expected to come into effect from September 2, as members.

For the first time ever, the heads of all parastatals of the city, including planning authorities, power, water, transport utilities including BMTC, BMRCL, DULT and BMLTA, city police and fire and emergency services, have been brought on one platform. Lack of coordination between various parastatals has been one of the big hurdles for the city's coordinated development.

Many exclusions

The government order constituting GBA has also excluded some others. For instance, the Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka), spearheading the suburban rail and Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Ltd. (B-SMILE), the special purpose vehicle recently formed to spearhead mega infrastructure projects in the city, are not represented on the GBA. While Bengaluru City Police Commissioner is a member, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic), Bengaluru is not.

The draft of the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill, 2024, submitted by the Brand Bengaluru Committee, also had Ministers for Home, Energy and Transport departments as members of the GBA. However, the Bill made into law by the State government dropped them as members of GBA, which many civic activists argue will be a hindrance in the days to come.

There is pressure as our former goalkeepers have set the bar high

The shot-stopper dwells on the importance of the Asia Cup and the road ahead for the team; embraces his new responsibility

FILE PHOTO: BISWARANJAN ROUT

INTERVIEW

KRISHAN PATHAK

Uthra Ganesan

Krishan Pathak has waited a long time to step out of the shadows and into the spotlight.

Having travelled to two Olympics as a stand-bye and an understudy to PR Sreejesh, Pathak now has a chance to prove himself a worthy successor to the long list of distinguished Indian hockey goalkeepers. Sreejesh' retirement pushed him to being the Indian team's main goalkeeper and the 28-year old is ready to step into the large shoes of his predecessor. Excerpts from an interaction ahead of the all-important Asia Cup:

Tell us about the last one year – the responsibility, the official stamp that you are now a senior and the Number One goalkeeper, the changes overall...

Yes, there is definitely more responsibility. Earlier Sree *bhai* was there, he used to handle a lot of things. We could ask him anything, he has played so much hockey, we could get answers to all our questions. Now I have to do it on my own, try and find them myself. So yes, the responsibility has increased. Handling the players on the field, managing and guiding the defence, analysing the opposition and preparing accordingly during penalty corners, telling the players what to do, make them understand – it's a continuous process. But I believe if you want to be the No. 1 goalkeeper, or in any area for that matter, these things will come and you have to know how to handle them.

Sreejesh's retirement after the Paris Olympics was announced much before that so mentally, you had time to prepare for the role. But how was the feeling when you stepped on the field for the first time, knowing you have actually reached where you always wanted to be?

Honestly, it wasn't like a Eureka! moment or anything. We had trained together for the Olympics, Sreejesh had already announced his decision and we knew we had to plan for the Asian Champions Trophy in two months' time after Paris. So it just moved organically. It was a very different team that had to play very different opposition compared to the Olympics. The Asian teams play with totally different structures and skills and we hadn't played them in a while. It a was little tough handling and analysing them... so we used videos from the last Asian Games and Sree *bhai* was also there. We talked and I used the help in China.

What kind of equation do you have with the other two goalkeepers in the side (Pawan Malik and Suraj Karkera)?

It's very good. Suraj and I have been together since we started in our junior days and we have been playing together for a long time both in seniors and juniors. I think it's good when you play at junior level together and then come into the national team. We keep telling each other what to do. It's not like I improve secretly or one of us does not know something – we share everything with each other, point out mistakes also. I believe at the moment we all have to improve a lot so whenever we are free or have some extra time or a rest day, if we feel the need, we have our goalkeeper sessions with (coach) Shivendra Singh.

I don't think there is much change because we have played together for a long time and we are almost the same age also. But yes, the coach has said that you have been playing for a long time, and have more international matches, so you have more responsibilities. That's when I feel that I have a little more responsibility and I have to handle it.

Goalkeeping is one area where Indian hockey has always had very good players – Sreejesh, Adrian (D'Souza), Baljeet Singh, A.B. Subbaiah, Ashish Balal. Is there pressure to prove yourself?

Some pressure is always there because all these former players have set the bar so high, it is difficult to reach there and you have to work really hard.

I always say that there will be pressure, there will be ups and downs for every player and there will be times you are not able to give 100% in a tournament. The important thing is to be mentally prepared for that and know how to move forward.

How was the Pro League experience?

Our home matches were, I think, very good. We also kept a clean sheet in 2-3 matches, which in modern hockey is very difficult and so gives a lot of confidence to a goalkeeper.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The coach also always tells us that margin of win or number of goals scored doesn't matter so long as we do not concede in the defence.

In the away matches, the results were not in our favour but most were close games. There were defensive mistakes, there were some major mistakes made by the goalkeepers also but we talked about it. We know that the Asia Cup is a qualifying event for the World Cup, there will be pressure and we don't want to repeat those mistakes here. Like goalkeeper sessions, we have also had separate PC defence sessions to work on the shortcomings – soft goals and PCs conceded, tackling – we don't want to give any chances to the opponent so overall, it was a good learning experience.

Is it a little frustrating, especially as a goalkeeper, because losses bring the focus on you when you keep losing?

Yes it does get a bit frustrating and there is pressure also, specially when you are continuously losing. I feel worse because I feel I could have stopped many of the goals, I could have done better. The good thing was as a team, we were very positive and there was no blame game, all 18 players were in it together. As for pressure, I have learnt it all from Sree *bhai*. I have seen how he handled it in his life and I have seen it in my own life a lot so you learn how to handle it, how to prepare mentally and avoid outside factors.

The Asia Cup, obviously, the target will be to win it and qualify for the World Cup. But how important is this for long-term planning because the planning for the next 18 months will depend on results here?

Personally, there won't be much change. I always try to assess our performances in the past, things we did good or bad, what we can do to improve. For myself, I always try to focus on the good things I did. Also, the teams will be almost the same as the Asian Champions Trophy last year, where I went as the main goalkeeper for the first time, so I watch the videos whenever I get time, try to understand the opponent and plan accordingly.

As for the tournament itself, it is important to win. Even in the Pro League, our target was to finish in the top-four but we couldn't do it. But you should always have a Plan B, know what next? Looking long-term, we also have the Asian Games next year and again, the teams will mostly be the same and there's not much time after the World Cup. That makes this all the more important not just in terms of result but also knowing the opponents.

Apartments open doors to idol-making workshops

While most communities have been inspired by schools conducting similar workshops, it has opened additional channels of income for traditional artisans

Priyanka Vaadulasha
BENGALURU

As Ganesh Chaturthi nears, several apartment communities are hosting clay idol-making workshops with the idea of crafting eco-friendly Ganeshas while turning common spaces into hubs of creativity and community bonding.

While around 35 children participated in the first year, the count has gradually grown to almost 60 persons, including parents and senior citizens.

GANESHA CHATURTHI 2025

Inspired by schools

"It's been two years since we introduced the idol-making workshop at our apartment. The response has been tremendous. Currently, we make our own Ganeshas for pooja and abstain from buying them," said Neeraj Rai, an association member of G.R. Sagar Nivas apartments, Akshaya Layout, Bengaluru.

Kruthi Rai, a resident of the same apartment, added that the idea stemmed from a workshop held in her daughter's school. "Our daughter and friends were making their own idols in school. Seeing her excitement throughout the process, we wanted to bring that very spirit home."

While around 35 children participated in the first year, the count has gradually grown to almost 60 persons, including parents and senior citizens. The celebrations stretch from groundwork for making idols to setting up the pandals.

"Our apartment is substantial enough to host the workshop within the residence. If the area permits, we will gladly welcome more participants and scale it up to the neighbourhood level," added Mr. Rai.

Aarthi Manivannan, a tenant in the apartment complex, currently carries out the workshop for the children. "Making clay pieces is a hobby. When the building association members reached out, I was more than happy to help," she said.

The required materials are ordered online in advance, as the making of the idol is time-consuming. The idols are then placed in the clubhouse for further rituals and worship.

The residents of Brindavan Palms at Naganthpura have come together this year to hold clay idol-making workshops. "It is our first time curating an experience like this. We now look forward to making it an annual ritual," said Roopa Iyer, a resident.

The pottery workshops are opening up new channels of income for traditional artisans.

Suresh B.R., a fourth-generation potter, said, "This time of the year is when we juggle between the usual sales and the workshop classes."

While a one-on-one session at his studio in Pottery Town costs around ₹200 per person, a workshop at an apartment would fetch him upwards of ₹3,000 depending on the distance travelled. "I travel every day to numerous apartments for workshops while also selling idols back home," he added.

Elaborate security arrangements in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

People throng K.R. Market in Bengaluru on Tuesday, as a variety of fresh flowers arrive from surrounding districts ahead of the Ganesha festival. K. MURALI KUMAR

The police have made elaborate security arrangements with the installation of more CCTV cameras across the city, which are linked to the command centre for effective monitoring as part of the Ganesha Chaturthi celebrations in the city.

City Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh said that apart from the regular force, two companies of Rapid Action force have been roped in, which will conduct route march in the city.

Apart from banning DJ music during the programme, the city police have deployed adequate security at immersion points.

The city police have facilitated a single window system to help organisers apply and get permission from different departments in one place. The police have been ordered to step up vigilance, monitor any violations, and take strict action.

Art, pottery studios across city turn into community hubs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With many of these art studios in Yelahanka, Whitefield, and Indiranagar turning into community spaces around the festival, idol-making is growing beyond Pottery Town workshops.

As the city gears up for Ganesha Chaturthi, pottery studios across the city are opening their doors not just to art students, but also to families, children, and neighbourhood groups eager to mould their own clay Ganesha idols. With many of these art studios in Yelahanka, Whitefield, and Indiranagar turning into community spaces around the festival, idol-making is also growing beyond Pottery Town workshops.

Across generations

"It's been nine years since I opened my studio space, and I have been conducting idol-making as a seasonal workshop; the numbers have escalated in the past few years from a small community event to an immense social affair," said Ritu Jabham, owner of Mud Effects Pottery Studio, Whitefield. The workshop costs between ₹1,200 and ₹1,800.

Meenakshi Verma, who has been running Oriri Studio near Nagashetty Halli for eight years, says it was surprising to see families coming in to participate in the workshop. "The idea caught on from the young to the senior generation seamlessly," she said.

Newer players

The increasing demand for such workshops has attracted even ceramic studios to step into the space. Sanchit Sharma, owner of Wheel and Potter at Srinivasa Nagar, who has conducted one clay idol-making workshop, said, "We're a ceramic studio, but seeing the response for making eco-friendly Ganeshas in the city, we look forward to doing it more."

3 held for assaulting labourer at Kalasipalya bus stand

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Three persons were arrested for allegedly assaulting a labourer of a private travel agency for wearing a saffron towel at Kalasipalya bus stand on Monday.

The accused, identified as Tabrez, 30, from Nagawara, a mechanic; Imran Khan, 35, from Banashankari, a radium cutting worker; and Ajeez Khan, 47, from Tilak Nagar, who work in real estate, have been charged under Sections 115 , 302 , and 352.

According to the police, the FIR was registered following a complaint lodged by Harikrishna, who works as loading in-charge at Royal Travels. In the complaint, Harikrishna claimed that he and his team of workers were doing their job when the suspects arrived and confronted Shilendra Kumar, one of the workers.

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Memory may not be fixed or random but be shaped by experience and sustained by practice. TIEN VU NGOC/UNSPLASH

Research shows forgetting may be natural, remembering takes work

Despite differences in species, brain regions, and memory types, two new studies point to a single provocative idea: memory isn't a static imprint the brain stores by default, it's a living process rebuilt, reinforced, and protected against decay, from the molecular level to the scale of neural circuits

Anirban Mukhopadhyay

When an animal learns to navigate a new environment, certain brain cells begin responding at specific locations. These neurons have long been seen as key to how spatial memories form. Once a memory is established, it's often assumed to be stable.

But a new study in *Nature Neuroscience* has challenged that view. Researchers tracked more than 2,500 neurons in mice learning to run a virtual track for a reward. They found that even the most stable memory signals were reconstructed daily through plasticity, a kind of neuronal rewiring.

"It was indeed surprising," said the study's first author Sachin Vaidya, associate professor at Baylor College of Medicine, Texas. "Memory may not be fixed by lasting synaptic strength, but instead may rely on a few stable synapses that re-trigger plasticity across the network each day."In other words, the mice weren't just retrieving a memory: they were actively reconstructing it.

"It's not relearning," Mr. Vaidya said. "It's a mechanism that balances stability and flexibility, preserving the memory's core while letting the network adapt."

This echoes what some scientists have long suspected.

"Even though the location may remain the same, time is always moving forward," said behavioural neuroscientist Tracey Shors of Rutgers University. "Each time you reflect on an experience, time has advanced, and therefore this memory is, at least in part, also new."

See how they run

To understand how memories persist over time, researchers trained mice to run on a virtual track. The mice stood on a small platform and viewed a moving visual scene to simulate forward motion. Reaching the end earned them a water reward. Over several days, the mice learned to anticipate the reward and ran more reliably.

As they ran, scientists monitored activity in hundreds of individual neurons in a hippocampal region called CA1, which helps animals track their location in space. Using two-photon calcium imaging, the team recorded the same set of cells across multiple days.

They focused on a type of signal called a place field, where a cell becomes active at a specific location. These "GPS tags" in the brain are considered key indicators of spatial memory. In the study, the team identified place fields that persisted over many days – the kind typically taken as signs of memory stability. Tracking the same cells over time, they asked: did these spatial signals remain stable or shift with time?

Stability that isn't static

As training progressed, more neurons formed place fields, firing reliably at specific locations on the virtual track. These patterns suggested that a spatial memory had formed.

Some place fields appeared briefly and then disappeared while others stayed active in consistent locations. These longer-lasting patterns were typically interpreted as evidence of a stable memory trace. The team focused on these more persistent patterns.

They looked for signs of a plasticity mechanism called behavioural timescale synaptic plasticity. It's a bit like stamping a memory into place: when a neuron receives a strong input, it fires a burst of activity that leaves a lasting mark. This appeared as a sudden jump in activity at a new location, followed by continued firing there.

Strikingly, even neurons with stable place fields showed new behavioural timescale synaptic plasticity signatures at the same spot the next day. Stability, in other words, wasn't static: it was rebuilt through new plasticity events.

These reactivations often occurred at the same location and were more likely in cells active the day before. Over time, cells with prior activity became increasingly likely to reactivate, suggesting that a memory's stability emerged from repeated recruitment.

But what marked certain synapses as the 'stable' ones?

Sourav Banerjee, a neuroscientist and professor at the National Brain Research Centre in Manesar, pointed to long non-coding RNAs (lncRNAs), molecules that don't make proteins but help regulate gene activity at specific sites.

"Our lab found a lncRNA at CA1 synapses that appears to do exactly that," Mr. Banerjee explained. "When we knocked it out using synapse-targeted CRISPR [the gene-editing tool], those synapses lost activity and the animal showed clear memory deficits."

In the mice, reactivation occurred even though the memory remained the same. The finding suggested that some brain cells may need to be re-engaged repeatedly to keep the memory active.

Each time we recall a memory, the brain may be reconstructing it anew.

"Our working idea is that stable synapses make reactivation of place cells more likely," Mr. Vaidya said. "But plasticity is probabilistic. A cell might go silent for a time and still reappear later. This may be how long-term memory endures despite temporary lapses in activity."To test whether this kind of probabilistic reactivation – i.e. how likely a neuron is to fire again – could explain what they were seeing, the researchers turned to modelling.

Probability, not permanence

The researchers simulated three models. One assumed that a neuron stayed active forever once it became active, like an engraved trace. Another treated neuron activity as random, switching on or off daily with no memory of past states. A third, called the cascade model, made reactivation more likely each time it occurred, letting stability build gradually over time.

Only the cascade model matched the real brain data, according to the researchers capturing both the rise of stable place cells and their consistent firing across days. This echoed a concept called metaplasticity, where a neuron's past activity makes it more likely to change again.

> Each time you reflect on an experience, time has advanced, and therefore this memory is, at least in part, also new
>
> **TRACEY SHORS**
> RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

"I have always wondered whether stable forms of plasticity, like lasting synaptic strengthening, could account for the dynamic nature of memories," said Ms. Shors, of Rutgers University. "A more dynamic form, this metaplasticity, is seemingly necessary."

That is, memory may not be fixed or random but be shaped by experience and sustained by practice.

When reactivation doesn't occur

The mouse study did raise another question: what happens when reactivation fails or when the brain actively dismantles a memory?

Another new study, this one published in *Current Biology*, turned to fruit flies to explore exactly that, revealing how a short-term memory trace could shift and then disappear if it wasn't maintained.

In the fruit flies, researchers from Tsinghua University in Beijing examined an associative memory formed after a sugar-reward task. Immediately after training, a signal appeared at a synapse between neurons that process reward, but faded within an hour.

Meanwhile, a second signal emerged in a different brain region involving a new set of connections.

The researchers called this a trace shift because the memory moved from one site in the body to another. In the latter, neurons began forming fresh active zones, the structures where neurotransmitters are released. But these new zones didn't last. It was as if the brain had opened a second memory warehouse and marked it for demolition. Molecules like Rac1 and Ephrin acted as foremen, instructing the removal of the new active zones and dismantling the second trace. When these molecular demolition crews were blocked, the memory lingered for far longer.

Do similar forgetting mechanisms exist in mammals? Mr. Banerjee said yes. In one study that he was part of, researchers found that deleting a specific lncRNA in the infralimbic cortex disrupted the extinction of a fear even after repeated exposure.

His team also uncovered a metabolic link: an lncRNA that regulated ATP production at hippocampal synapses.

"Disrupt sleep, lose energy, and the trace collapses," Mr. Banerjee said. "It shows how molecular and metabolic factors can directly influence whether a memory fades or persists."

Rather than passive decay, the fly study described forgetting as an orchestrated, multi-step process triggered once a memory moves to a site marked for removal.

Mr. Banerjee's findings suggested mammalian parallels: that forgetting, too, is an active and regulated process, albeit more nuanced and complex.

"Rac and Ephrin do affect the shape of synapses, and that can make them less stable," Mr. Banerjee said.

"But I don't think these molecules alone explain the kind of memory shift we saw in flies. That level of change likely depends more on how groups of neurons behave together than just on what's happening at individual connections. We're not quite there yet in linking those big-picture patterns to molecular details – but that's where we need to go."

When memory persists, or not

We often think of memories as static: something laid down and ready to be recalled. But what happens after a memory forms may be just as important as how it forms.

"There's a strong analogy to spaced versus massed learning," Mr. Banerjee said. "Think of two students: one studies steadily for months, the other crams the night before. The first usually does better because repeated exposure helps lock in the memory. In the brain, we do something similar. Spaced learning re-engages the same synapses repeatedly."A widely supported theory for how this works is called circuit remodelling.

"The idea is that repeated activation doesn't just strengthen a connection, it triggers molecular changes that help stabilise it," Mr. Banerjee said.

"New proteins are made at active synapses, which signal back to the nucleus and activate protein synthesis. Later, other synapses can 'capture' those proteins and grow stronger. This two-stage process is how fleeting activity becomes a durable memory."

In mice, memory traces returned to the same location across many days of training – but only by being actively rebuilt.

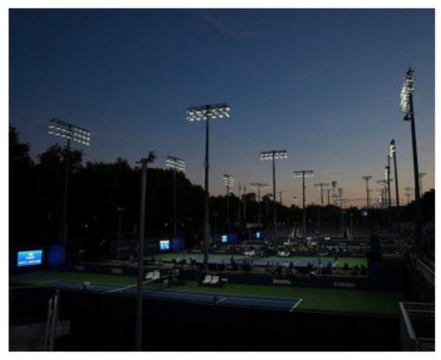
In flies, short-term memories shifted and were dismantled unless preserved. Together, the studies show that memory is dynamic: rebuilt when needed, let go when it's not.This kind of flexibility hints at a deeper function.

"The purpose of memory is not to reminisce about the past," said Ms. Shors. "We use memories to learn what we should do now and in the future."

In this view, memory is less a record than a rehearsal that tunes the mind to act.

Despite differences in species, brain regions, and memory types, both studies point to a provocative idea: memory isn't a static imprint the brain stores by default. It's a living process: rebuilt, reinforced, and actively protected against decay, from the molecular level to the scale of entire neural circuits.

(Anirban Mukhopadhyay is a geneticist by training and science communicator from Delhi. anirban.genetics@south.du.ac.in)



Shielded LED lights, approved by DarkSky International, illuminate the USTA's Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in New York. AP

Illumination at US Open is designed to cut light pollution

Associated Press

When the court lights flickered on at the U.S. Open, tennis stars shone under illumination designed to cut light pollution.

The wedge-shaped lamps around the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Flushing Meadows directed light onto the players without spewing it into the surrounding skies.

The stadium complex is the only professional sports venue certified by a group trying to preserve the night sky around the world. Across North America and Canada, schools and local parks have also swapped out their lights on baseball fields, running tracks, and other recreation grounds.

Night lights can disrupt bird migration and confuse nocturnal critters like frogs and fireflies. Lights on sports fields are especially bright and cool, and often cast their glare into neighborhoods.

In renovations over the past decade, the U.S. Tennis Association (USTA) swapped metal halide bulbs for shielded LED lights. The complex's 17 tournament courts and five practice courts were approved as dark sky-friendly last year.

USTA officials wanted the best lighting possible on their courts, which also happened to be friendly to dark skies. Their lighting company suggested striking a balance that would satisfy crowds and TV crews while cutting down spillover into the surrounding environment.

The lights at Flushing Meadows glow at a quarter of their brightness when the courts are rented for play during the year. They're approved by DarkSky International, a nonprofit that gives similar designations to cities and national parks. The group widened its focus to include sports arenas in recent years and

The USTA swapped metal halide bulbs for shielded LED lights. The complex's courts were approved as dark sky-friendly last year

has certified over 30 venues since 2019, including high school football fields and youth soccer fields.

The organisation typically approves proposals at sports fields before any light fixtures are installed or replaced. Once construction is complete, a representative measures the glow and glare against a set of guidelines that benefit the night.

Renovating a field with dark skies in mind can cost about 5% to 10% more than traditional sports lighting, according to James Brigagliano, who runs DarkSky's outdoor sports lighting program. Venues may require a few extra fixtures since the light shining from them is more targeted.

Most arenas make the change during scheduled maintenance and renovation, working with sports lighting company Musco. The company lights over 3,000 venues a year including college football stadiums, tennis courts, and rail yards.

Night lights harm the surrounding environment no matter how shielded they are. DarkSky-approved fields still allow a small fraction of their light to be pointed up since it's necessary to keep track of flying balls.

"You can have the absolute best, most carefully designed stadium lighting in the world, and you're still creating light pollution," said Travis Longcore, an urban light pollution expert at the University of California, Los Angeles.

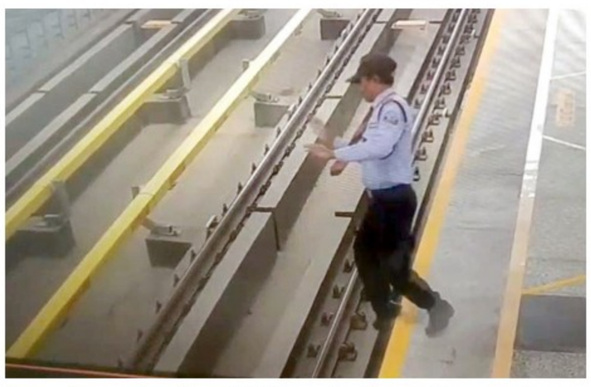
The U.S. Open courts are side-by-side with bright lights from Manhattan and Queens – so they can only darken a slice of the sky. But DarkSky says every light fixture makes a difference, and one professional arena can influence others.

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Security guard's fall on tracks sparks concern about long working hours

The Hindu had reported about the 52-year-old guard, deployed at Ragigudda Metro Station, falling due to exhaustion

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU



A security guard accidentally fell onto the Namma Metro track at Raggi Gudda station on August 25, 2025. SCREEN GRAB

The accidental fall of a security guard onto the tracks at the newly-inaugurated Ragigudda Metro Station on the Yellow Line of Namma Metro on Monday has raised concerns about both the working conditions of guards deployed at the metro stations and the absence of adequate safety barriers, such as platform screen doors (PSDs).

The Hindu reported that a 52-year-old guard, deployed at Ragigudda, fell due to exhaustion allegedly after working for nearly 16 hours with only a short break for rest before reporting back for duty. Sources in Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) confirmed to *The Hindu* that the guard had been clocking long hours prior to the incident.

Overworked

A number of guards, most of whom are deployed through private agencies or the Karnataka Home Guards, told *The Hindu* that long shifts are not uncommon. Many of them work extra hours to earn a higher income, but at the cost of sleep and basic rest.

"Most of us are sleep-deprived. On top of that, we have to stand continuously for hours, sometimes with very limited breaks, except to visit the washroom. It takes a toll on our health and concentration," said one guard from a private security agency who is currently working at a metro station.

A Home Guard deployed at another metro station explained that the situation is particularly difficult during peak hours. "Guarding the platforms is quite challenging since we are required to stand in crowded spaces with constant passenger movement. The shortage of guards puts additional pressure on those already deployed," he said.

A senior Karnataka Home Guards official told *The Hindu* that their personnel find metro duty especially tough. "Usually, whenever we allot Home Guards for metro duty, they hesitate a little since they have to be standing for hours. It is very strict. If a guard tries to sit for a while, it will be captured on CCTV cameras, and they will be questioned. Especially women guards find it very difficult during menstruation," the official said.

The official added that Home Guards are often pulled out from metro duty during VIP movement or festivals when police require additional forces, leading to greater reliance on private security agencies.

Low pay

Private security agencies, according to guards, pay low salaries. This compels many to work additional shifts or even moonlight to make ends meet.

"Those working with private agencies cannot survive on one shift. One night shift and one day shift fetches us around ₹20,000 to ₹25,000 a month. But doing only one shift gets us just about ₹15,000, which is too little to manage expenses," said a guard who works with a private agency.

The Ragigudda incident has once again brought back discussions about whether Namma Metro should have its own dedicated security force, similar to the Railway Protection Force (RPF) in Indian Railways.

In 2019, then Director General and Inspector General of Police Neelamani Raju had written to BMRCL suggesting the creation of a special unit – the Karnataka State Industrial Security Force (KSISF) – with a strength of 1,350 personnel dedicated to metro security.

A BMRCL official said the proposal was dropped on the grounds of feasibility and cost. For now, metro stations continue to be secured by a mix of Home Guards and staff from private security agencies.

Beyond staffing and work condition issues, the Ragigudda incident has reignited debates around passenger safety on platforms. Despite repeated cases of passengers either accidentally falling onto electrified tracks or deliberately jumping, most stations still lack PSDs or adequate railings.

After past incidents, BMRCL had installed safety railings only at Nadaprabhu Kempegowda (Majestic) Interchange. More recently, on August 20, new barricades were put up at R.V. Road Interchange Station to manage passenger surge on the Yellow Line. R.V. Road has become just the second station in the network after Majestic to be equipped with railings to prevent accidental falls.

Hari Prasad, a commuter from Jalahalli, said, "Unlike many other metro systems, Bengaluru uses the third rail system. That means if someone falls, it is life-threatening because of the 750V DC running on the third rail. Platform screen doors need to be installed as soon as possible."

Another commuter, Prasanth Kumar from Bommanahalli, said, "Screen doors are mandatory. I don't know how this metro system was approved without such basic infrastructure, especially given the huge daily passenger volume of 10 lakh persons after the opening of the Yellow Line. BMRCL officials should at least have ensured this level of safety."

"The Ragigudda incident has highlighted two parallel challenges for Namma Metro: ensuring the well-being of guards who play a critical role in crowd control and passenger safety, and addressing the long-pending issue of installing platform barriers to prevent track-related accidents," Mr. Kumar added.

Meanwhile, a senior BMRCL official clarified that the security guard in question complained only of giddiness. "He may not be sleep-deprived. Whenever we hire security personnel through agencies, we ensure that these agencies strictly comply with labour laws and do not subject their guards to excessive working hours. At BMRCL, we are very particular about the well-being of outsourced staff, and we make sure all rules and regulations are followed so that such incidents do not occur due to fatigue or negligence," official told *The Hindu*.

Railways-airport link plan set aside as suburban lines take shape

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Railways' earlier proposal to create a short rail link connecting Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) with Bengaluru city has been set aside following a stakeholders' meeting. Authorities concluded that a separate railway line is not required since the airport will already be served by both the metro and suburban rail networks.

In February, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw had announced the plan as part of a wider push to decongest the city. The proposal envisaged a rail-over-rail (RoR) flyover, and a 7.9-km line between Doddajala and the airport, featuring three stations.

At present, the closest railway station to the airport is KIA Halt, located 3.5 km away from the terminal. Bangalore International Airport Ltd. (BIAL) operates free shuttle services between the halt and the terminal, synchronised with train schedules. Despite this, passenger numbers remain low as only limited train services are available on the single-track Yelahanka-Devanahalli corridor, which is also used by other long-distance trains.

Mukul Saran Mathur, General Manager of South Western Railway, said that the project was set aside after discussions with the airport operator. "Since the metro and suburban rail lines are already being extended to the airport, adding another railway line was considered unnecessary," he said.

Meanwhile, works on Namma Metro's Blue Line (K.R. Puram-KIA) is under progress. Additionally, K-RIDE, which is implementing Bengaluru's suburban rail network, is developing the Sampige Line connecting KSR Bengaluru with Yelahanka and Devanahalli.

More flights from KIA starting Sept. 1

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

More flights and additional routes are in the offing from the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in the coming days.

Starting October 1, Akasa Air will offer daily direct flights connecting Bengaluru with Phuket.

"Phuket offers a captivating blend of leisure, culture and adventure and remains a preferred holiday destination for Indians. The conveniently timed flights on the Bengaluru-Phuket route will provide travellers from Southern India with enhanced connectivity and choice of flying with India's most dependable airline, while also fostering stronger cultural exchange and tourism between India and Thailand," Akasa Air said.

Flight QP 623 will depart Bengaluru 6.25 a.m. and arrive at Phuket at 12.40 p.m. and from Phuket flight QP 624 will depart at 1.40 p.m. and arrive in Bengaluru at 4.40 p.m.

On the domestic front Air India Express is expanding its footprint with the addition of three new cities, Ahmedabad, Chandigarh, and Dehradun, to its network. "In the first phase, the airline will connect these cities with its Bengaluru hub from September 1, 2025. Flyers can book these flights at attractive introductory one-way fares starting from ₹4,100," the airline said.

Daily flights

The airline will operate two daily flights on the Ahmedabad - Bengaluru and Chandigarh - Bengaluru routes, and one daily flight on the Dehradun - Bengaluru route.

On the Ahmedabad-Bengaluru and Bengaluru-Ahmedabad routes one daily flight will start operations from September 1 and the second daily flight on these routes will operate from September 16.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
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Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka
Sri D K Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister &
Minister for Bengaluru City Development
Government of Karnataka
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Ganesha Idols kept in the houses should be immersed in the house or in the mobile tanks or Kalyanis designated by BBMP.
For Traditional Celebrations prior permission for the single window Centres should be obtained for installation of Ganesha Idols.
Follow queue and await your turn to prevent crowding at the places of immersion.
Before the immersion of the Ganesha Idol, remove the flowers and other materials, separate it as dry and wet waste and dispose them at the designated places.
Ganesha idols should be handed over to BBMP Members at the time of immersions.
Do not use Plastic, Polythene, Thermocol, Ganesha Idols made of P.O.P chemicals which are harmful to the environment.
Strictly follow the guidelines already issued by the government and any other rules and guidelines issued in the future.
NOTE: Scan the QR code for information on 75 Single Window centres & concerned Nodal Officers and details of 41 temporary Kalyanis & 490 Temporary Mobile Tanks in the limits of BBMP or visit website https://qapps.bbmpgov.in/ganesh2025/ or call BBMP Helpline 1533
Tushar Giri Nath, IAS., Administrator, BBMP
As enshrined in our constitution "to safe guard public property and abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country
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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Number of polio cases reported in Pakistan this year

23 Pakistan is the only country other than Afghanistan, where polio remains endemic. The fresh cases were reported in the Tank and North Waziristan districts, the National Institute of Health (NIH) said in a statement, adding that both the victims are girls aged 16 months and two years. PTI

Interest subvention for investors in the Bihar industrial sector

40 in ₹ crore. The Bihar government unveiled the Bihar Industrial Investment Promotion Package 2025 on Tuesday. Under the new policy, free land and interest subvention of up to ₹40 crore would be provided to those investing in the industrial sector. PTI

Number of reservists to take part in Israel's occupation of Gaza

1.3 in lakh. Fighting is expected to continue well into 2026. The first set of 40,000–50,000 reservists are due to show up for duty on September 2. Under Israeli law, every citizen or permanent resident must serve in the military between 18 and 36 months, followed by 10 years of reserve duty. PTI

Funds allocated to provide electricity to Ganesh marquees

25 in ₹ crore. Andhra Pradesh Energy Minister G. Ravi Kumar said the government had allocated ₹25 crore to provide free electricity to 15,000 Ganesh marquees across the State. Mr. Kumar said measures are being taken to ensure programmes proceed without inconvenience. PTI

Number of people worldwide who lack access to water

2 in billion. The United Nations provided this figure warning that progress towards universal coverage was moving nowhere near quickly enough. The UN's health and children's agencies said one in four people were without access to safe drinking water last year. AFP

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What is the air drop test conducted by ISRO?

How was the first Integrated Air Drop Test conducted? Which departments and agencies were involved in it? How are preparations for the Gaganyaan mission coming along? Is it necessary to conduct multiple tests for a crewed space flight? What are India's long term spaceflight goals?

EXPLAINER

Vasudevan Mukunth

The story so far:

On August 24, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully carried out its first Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-1), a crucial milestone in the preparation for the country's maiden human spaceflight mission, Gaganyaan. A dummy crew capsule weighing nearly five tonnes was dropped from a helicopter to test whether its parachute system could slow it safely for splashdown.

What is IADT-1?

The IADT is designed to evaluate the parachute-based deceleration system that will bring the Gaganyaan crew module down safely after reentry. In IADT-1, the parachutes were expected to deploy in a precise sequence after the module was released from a height of about 3 km.

Although the capsule was uncrewed and the drop was conducted from a helicopter, the test simulated the last stages of an actual space mission. In the real scenario, the capsule will first be slowed by atmospheric drag and its heat shields, followed by smaller drogue parachutes and finally the three 25-m main parachutes. The aim was to ensure the capsule slowed to around 8 m/s before splashdown.

How was the test carried out?

For IADT-1, an Indian Air Force Chinook helicopter lifted a 4.8-tonne dummy crew module into the air. At the designated altitude, the helicopter released the capsule. From then on, automated systems triggered the sequential deployment of parachutes. ISRO reported that the touchdown conditions matched expectations, demonstrating that the design worked in real-world conditions. The exercise involved extensive modelling, instrumentation, and coordination among multiple agencies.

One step closer: ISRO successfully conducts the first IADT-01 test in Bengaluru on August 24. ANI

Aside from the Air Force, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) contributed to materials and safety systems. The Indian Navy and Coast Guard prepared for post-splashdown recovery. Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre Director A. Rajarajan has said that his centre was responsible for nearly "90%" of IADT-1 activities. In a crewed space mission, ascent, descent, and recovery are the riskiest phases. Even after a successful launch and orbital stay, astronauts' survival hinges on whether the capsule can decelerate safely for re-entry and landing. A failure in parachute deployment would be catastrophic. Ground testing is thus indispensable.

Where does IADT lie on the roadmap?

Gaganyaan's ultimate objective is to send Indian astronauts to low-earth orbit on a human-rated LVM3 rocket. But before that happens, ISRO must conduct a series of tests to validate safety systems. Unlike previous satellite or planetary missions, human spaceflight requires human-rating of every system. This involves engineering redundancies, fault detection, and life support. The Crew Escape System tests are to demonstrate whether astronauts can be pulled away from the rocket in case of launch failure. The first such test vehicle flight, TV-D1, took place in October 2023. TV-D2, scheduled next, will attempt a more complex abort scenario.

The uncrewed Gaganyaan-1 (G1) mission will launch a crew module aboard the LVM3 to orbit. The module will house 'Vyommitra', a humanoid robot designed to mimic astronaut operations. The recent IADT-1 success will pave the way for TV-D2 and G1. Further drop tests and subsystem trials, including more IADTs and subsystem checks, will continue in parallel, refining the systems before astronauts are cleared to fly. In all, by the time the first human flight (H1) has happened, ISRO will have conducted several thousand tests.

Some of the critical systems under development include the environmental control and life support system (ECLSS) for oxygen, temperature, waste management, and fire safety; the integrated vehicle health management system (IVHMS), capable of autonomously detecting faults and triggering abort actions; and the strengthened LVM3 rocket, modified to meet the reliability standards necessary to carry humans. India has also had to indigenise many technologies that were unavailable from abroad, from escape motors to specialised composites. Each subsystem has to pass hundreds of tests before being certified.

What are India's long-term goals?

Gaganyaan is not an end in itself but the foundation of a broader human spaceflight roadmap. The Indian government has announced plans to establish the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) by 2035 and to achieve an Indian crewed lunar landing by 2040. These goals will demand repeated flights, extended orbital missions, and deep-space technology. In this regard, while schedules may slip – IADT-1 was originally planned for April 2024 – each milestone will build capability for more ambitious tests. For example, according to ISRO, the TV-D2 mission "will demonstrate Gaganyaan Crew Escape System by simulating an abort scenario. The crew module will separate and descend using thrusters and parachutes before sea splashdown, followed by recovery operations." In tandem, ISRO is currently operating its SpaDeX mission in its extended phase, after the mission's twin satellites successfully demonstrated in-orbit docking in May 2025. This technology will be an important part of the Gaganyaan, Chandrayaan-4, and BAS missions. H1 is currently scheduled for 2027 but is likely to be delayed further.

THE GIST

- The IADT is designed to evaluate the parachute-based deceleration system that will bring the Gaganyaan crew module down safely after reentry.
- Gaganyaan's ultimate objective is to send Indian astronauts to low-earth orbit on a human-rated LVM3 rocket.
- Gaganyaan is not an end in itself but the foundation of a broader human spaceflight roadmap.

Why has the import duty on cotton been suspended?

When was the levy first introduced? Has cotton production been declining in the country?

M. Soundariya Preetha

The story so far:

Cotton, which is the main raw material for the textile industry, is grown by nearly six million farmers in India. In the wake of declining production, the Central government has withdrawn the 11% import duty it introduced in February 2021. However, the last year saw a steep increase in cotton imports, even with the duty in place. On August 18, the government said it is withdrawing the duty till September 30 when the current cotton season will end.

Why was the duty introduced?

The import duty was announced by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the 2021 Budget, when the country was producing 350 lakh bales of cotton annually against the requirement of 335 lakh bales. While the country was exporting cotton, there were imports too and the duty was aimed at protecting the interest of cotton growers.

In a move to address the raw material (cotton) shortage faced by the textile industry, the government exempted all varieties of cotton from import duty from April 14, 2022 to September 30, 2022, later extending the exemption until October 31, 2022. According to the Global Trade Research Initiative, cotton imports surged 107.4%, rising from $579.2 million in FY2023-2024 to $1.20 billion in FY2024-2025.

What is the current situation?

The overall domestic cotton production is down to 294 lakh bales, the lowest in the last 15 years, against the requirement of 318 lakh bales (including non-mill use). Cotton production in the 2024-2025 cotton season (October to September) is estimated to be nearly 20 lakh bales lesser than the last cotton season. Imports are also likely to be highest at about 40 lakh bales, with major supplies coming from Australia ($258.2 million), the U.S. ($234.1 million), Brazil ($180.8 million), and Egypt ($116.3 million). The Cotton Corporation of India purchased nearly 100 lakh bales of cotton from farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP) during the ongoing cotton season spending ₹37,500 crore, and has sold 73 lakh bales in the market. For the 2025-2026 cotton season that will start on October 1, the government has hiked the MSP by 8%. Farmers in the north are expected to start bringing cotton to the market in October and those in central and western States are likely to start supplying after Deepavali.

What does the withdrawal imply?

It is said that only about two lakh bales of imported cotton that are in transit will be available without the duty as it will reach Indian shores by September 30. Several international brands are highlighting that cotton suppliers and garment manufacturers need to use cotton from these suppliers. When garment exporters compete in the international market, the raw material price was higher because of the duty. They will have a level-playing field without the duty.

However, cotton farmers are not in complete agreement with these views. According to Ravichandran, who cultivates cotton at Thiruvarur in Tamil Nadu, the removal of the duty discourages farmers from cultivating cotton. The removal of the import duty will not help cotton farmers who do not get any support from the government, said Kurubur Shanthakumar, south India convenor of Samyukta Kisan Morcha.

What is the long-term solution?

The industry is looking at two major support measures from the government – it wants a stable policy so that the industry can plan for raw material procurement. The government should suspend the duty every year during the non-peak season (April to September) as the farmers would have sold majority of the produce by then.

It also wants 5% interest subvention for working capital that textile mills need to purchase cotton during the peak season. If the mills, especially MSME units, have adequate funds, they can cover the required cotton and government need not spend on MSP operations, says industry.

THE GIST

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- The import duty was announced by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the 2021 Budget, when the country was producing 350 lakh bales of cotton annually against the requirement of 335 lakh bales.
- It is said that only about two lakh bales of imported cotton that are in transit will be available without the duty as it will reach Indian shores by September 30.

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With Sci-Hub gone, will the 'One Nation, One Subscription' scheme step up?

Internationally, publishers such as Elsevier and Wiley have used the courtroom to buttress the legitimacy of their business model and portray shadow libraries like Alexandra Elbakyan's Sci-Hub as rogue actors rather than as symptoms of dysfunction

Vasudevan Mukunth

When the Delhi High Court ordered internet service providers to block access to Sci-Hub and its mirrors, it closed a chapter in one of the more fraught debates in contemporary research: who gets to read research papers, and who must pay. The verdict followed years of litigation by Elsevier, Wiley, and the American Chemical Society against Sci-Hub founder Alexandra Elbakyan. The court held that Ms. Elbakyan had violated an undertaking not to upload publishers' articles, and that Sci-Net, a mirror service, was being used to circumvent judicial orders, leaving her *prima facie* in contempt.

This seemingly straightforward case of copyright violation – private corporations defending intellectual property against piracy – is transformed by its context. The publishers' legal win must be weighed against the case for public access to knowledge, the economics of scholarly publishing, and the arrival of 'One Nation, One Subscription' (ONOS), which together suggest that depending on courtroom battles might be misplaced.

An endeavour apart

Scientific publishing is unlike other enterprises where piracy drains income from creators. Scientists who produce and review research are not paid by journals: their work is largely funded by public money in India. Yet publishers charge institutions exorbitant subscription fees, sometimes lakhs of rupees per journal. Publishers have defended these figures on grounds of quality control and peer review. But with profit margins of 30% or more and a voluntary review system, the system has often resembled rent-seeking.

On the other hand, Sci-Hub was always vulnerable to the charge of copyright infringement. Courts in the U.S. and Europe have consistently ruled against it, and now the Delhi High Court has joined that chorus. While this is uncontroversial from a strictly legal standpoint, the larger implication is troubling. The judgment risks reinforcing the idea that legal strategies to restrict access are valid even in settings where no affordable or equitable alternative exists.

Internationally, publishers have used the courtroom to buttress the legitimacy of their business model and portray shadow libraries like Sci-Hub as rogue actors rather than as symptoms of dysfunction. In fact, the outcome in the High Court fits a pattern: publishers protect a lucrative business model, courts apply the letter of the law, and the underlying lack of access stays unresolved. Experts have been steadfast that the dysfunction is the real disease that needs to be cured.

Unified subscription

The Indian government recently put forward the ONOS initiative as an alternative. Whether it succeeds will determine if future generations of researchers must still look for back doors. The Union Cabinet approved ONOS in 2024 with an outlay of ₹6,000 crore for its first phase (2023-2026). Under the scheme, the state has negotiated a bulk subscription with 30 major publishers so that research institutions – all public and, in phase II, many private ones – have equal access to some 13,000 journals.

Thanks to the rise of preprints and institutional repositories, more than half of the scientific papers worldwide are now open access. From 2026, all federally funded research in the U.S. must be openly accessible; the EU's Horizon Europe programme has similar requirements. Paying crores for subscriptions at a time when openness is expanding could render ONOS an expensive detour. Until phase II, independent researchers and those at private institutes and centres – who may outnumber their counterparts at public centres – will still have to pay considerable non-ONOS fees to access journals and still depend on platforms like Sci-Hub.

ONOS also doesn't address structural flaws in scholarly publishing, reinforces dependence on foreign publishers, and continues to force Indian researchers to transfer copyrights of their own work to journals. At the same time, the subscription model that ONOS pays for still encompasses several thousand journals, including those that many researchers wish to be published in. Blaming ONOS on this count rather than a long-awaited culture change, especially not one the state could have forced, wouldn't make sense.

Ms. Elbakyan's attempts to (further) incentivise scholars to contribute to Sci-Hub's collection of papers using the Sci-Net portal and its cryptocurrency-based rewards system also don't seem to be succeeding. Whatever moral force Ms. Elbakyan's project once had has since been squandered by technical unreliability and increasing redundancy. The High Court's injunction may thus be decisive less because of its punitive sting than because of the fact that the Indian community is already moving on.

Pathology of publishing

At the time the publishers sued Ms. Elbakyan in 2020, there was no realistic prospect of universal access. For countless researchers outside elite institutions, Sci-Hub was (and remains) often the only path to knowledge. Both legal experts and researchers have thus contended that on principle alone, courts could have acknowledged the unique nature of scientific publishing – that the absence of author royalties, prevalence of public funding, and exorbitant pricing by publishers set it apart from creative industries like music or film – and refused to privilege corporate margins over public good.

Today, ONOS provides a legal path to broader access and its success could render shadow libraries unnecessary. It needs to prove it can seamlessly deliver equitable access at a fair cost while India must foster greater indigenous publishing capacity. On both counts, however, it's not clear if ONOS can do so in its present form. For example, on the first count, the concerned authorities will have to improve the efficiency of use by regularly consulting researchers on which journals are useful and keep other options, like a per-article fee for esoteric journals, open.

On the second, ONOS frees funds at many individual institutes and the scheme currently intends to redirect them towards pay-to-publish (rather than pay-to-read) open-access journals. Instead, governments may consider using them to install and manage institutional repositories. Experts have said this service could in turn be complemented by a national rights retention policy, like those at Harvard University and MIT, that require researchers to deposit their work in the repositories regardless of publishers' restrictions.

This could keep researchers in control of their work, force pay-to-publish journals to modify their terms, and allow people who aren't linked to university and/or public libraries to access papers, including journalists, activists, and independent researchers.

Sci-Hub in many respects remains a symbol of resistance against publishers' profiteering. Following the Delhi High Court order, the question is whether ONOS will step up to eradicate the disease rather than simply manage the symptoms.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"You look all sweaty. Were you playing cricket?"

"No, not cricket. I was playing table tennis with Mala and..."

"... you played table tennis with Mala! She must have wiped the floor with you."

"Wiped the floor with me? What does it mean?"

"When you say you've wiped the floor with someone, it means that you have beaten or defeated that person completely. For example. I played tennis with Ganesh yesterday, and he wiped the floor with me."

"Meaning, you got a sound thrashing."

"Exactly!"

"Can I say our cricket team wiped the floor with their team?"

"You certainly can. But remember, to wipe the floor with someone is an informal expression. So..."

"... it cannot be used in all situations."

"That's right."

"So, what's your sister up to these days?"

"Well, as you know, she didn't get admission in medical school."

"I am sure she is not a happy camper right now."

"A what?"

"A happy camper. A happy camper is a happy person. And this expression is usually used in the negative. For example. Mahesh lost his job and he is not a happy camper."

"Right now I am not a happy camper. I'm tired and hungry. Is it ok to say that?"

"Sounds good to me. The producer of my favourite hero's latest movie is not a happy camper. The movie bombed at the box office."

"Yesterday, I didn't do well in the physics test and wasn't a happy camper."

"Why don't you ask your sister to help you?"

"She's hardly at home these days. She and her friends are always out shopping."

"Out shopping? Where does she get the money to buy stuff?"

"Oh, she never buys anything. She and her friends just go to different stores and see what's available."

"I see. She does a lot of window-shopping then!"

"Window-shopping; Why should she buy windows? I don't under..."

"... window-shopping is the habit of looking through windows of shops without actually buying something. For example, I can say, I did some window-shopping yesterday."

"My father says that the secretaries in his office do window-shopping during their lunch hour."

"When my mother was young, she loved to do window-shopping."

"Yesterday, my mother told my father that she was going to do some window-shopping. But she came home with three new sarees!"

"I am sure your father wasn't a happy camper then!"

Published in The Hindu on October 28, 1997.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

The US Open is upon us. Here is a quiz on the last Grand Slam of the season

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1
It is the only championship not cancelled for any reason since its inception. Other championships were cancelled for which reasons in history?

QUESTION 2
From 2022, revised tiebreak rules were initiated and standardised in the final set for all four majors, where if a match reaches six-all in the final set an extended tiebreaker is played. What is this extended tiebreaker?

QUESTION 3
Among many firsts for the US Open, this was perhaps one of them which broke the glass ceiling. In 1973, the championship became the first to do this with the winners. What was it?

QUESTION 4
Who is the only individual to have won US Open singles titles on all three surfaces?

QUESTION 5
In the Open Era, three players have won the most singles titles, at five. Who are they?

Visual question:
Identify this player. She is the only woman to have won US Open singles titles on two surfaces (clay and hardcourt). She has also achieved another feat, and is in a tie with Serena Williams. What is it?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The manner in which Ganesha art featured in temple art under the Rashtrakutas and Chalukyas. **Ans: From the 6th–8th centuries, Ganesha appeared in Rashtrakuta cave temples at Ellora and in Chalukya sites at Badami, Aihole, and Pattadakal, reflecting his rising ritual importance**

2. The earliest inscriptional evidence of Ganesha outside India. **Ans: The oldest known Ganesha statue with an inscription comes from northern China in 531 A.D.**

3. The reason the Portuguese banned Ganesh Chaturthi in Goa. **Ans: After 1566, the Goa Inquisition outlawed public rituals, including idol worship, devotees preserved devotion by secretly venerating drawings, turmeric, or areca nuts as symbolic representations of Ganesha within their homes.**

4. The way in which Bal Gangadhar Tilak transformed Ganesh Chaturthi into a nationalist festival in 1893. **Ans: Tilak used Ganesha's cross-caste appeal to unite people under religious cover, bypassing British "Seditious Meetings Act" which limited public assemblies; theatre and songs in public pandals carried veiled anti-colonial messages, making the festival a tool of political mobilisation.**

5. The environmental concern around Ganesh idol immersion. **Ans: The widespread use of Plaster of Paris idols painted with chemical dyes causes severe water pollution during immersion.**

Visual: Identify this carving. **Ans: This Gupta-era carving of Ganesha can be seen at Udayagiri Caves near Vidisha**

Early Bird: K.N. Viswanathan

Word of the day

Undulant:
resembling waves in form or outline or motion

Usage: *The undulant dancers were waving their hands in the air.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/undulantpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈʌndʒʊlənt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

NEET 2nd round counselling delayed

KEA has decided to request AICTE to extend the deadline for admission of engineering courses till September 30

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

With the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC) yet to start the second round NEET counselling for national quota medical seat allotment, the admission process for engineering and other professional courses in Karnataka will be delayed. The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has decided to request the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to extend the deadline for admission of engineering courses till September 30.

"Steps have been taken to conduct the seat allocation process for all professional courses, including engineering and medical, simultaneously. We have already started the second round of CET and NEET counselling process in Karnataka. However, the MCC has issued a notice that the second round of national quota medical seat allocation process will be started after August 29.

KEA has issued a schedule to announce the provisional seat allotment result on August 29. FILE PHOTO

Due to this, the second round of counselling processes will be delayed as well. The deadline for admission of engineering courses is September 15.

A request has been made to the Higher Education Minister to write a letter to the AICTE to extend it till September 30," Prasanna H., Executive Director, KEA told *The Hindu*.

KEA, which has taken steps to conduct the CET and NEET second round counselling processes simultaneously for admission to professional courses for the year 2025-26, has issued a schedule to announce the provisional seat allotment result on August 29.

However, recently, the chairman of National Medical Commission (NMC) announced that a total of 8,000 undergraduate and postgraduate medical seat enhancements will be given to all medical colleges across India.

It is expected that the seat enhancement will be done before the second round of NEET counselling. MCC has issued a public notice that the second round NEET counselling will start on August 29.

Due to this, if the KEA takes action for the seat allocation process of other courses, including engineering, it will be unfair to the candidates who are expecting to get medical seats.

KUPECA letter to KEA

AICTE has set a deadline of September 15 for admission to engineering courses for the current academic year. The Karnataka Unaided Private Engineering Colleges' Association (KUPECA) has written a letter to KEA to complete all the rounds of counselling, and handover the unfilled seats on or before September 5.

In addition, in the wake of seats not being filled through COMED-K counselling, some colleges under COMED-K have surrendered a total of 6,718 engineering seats to KEA, and requested that these seats be filled through CET counselling.

"Regarding the allocation of seats for AYUSH courses, the AYUSH department has not yet given seat matrix for many courses. In addition, KUPECA has sent a letter to complete all rounds of counselling and handover the vacant seats before September 5. However, it is impossible to conduct the second round of CET counselling without completing the NEET second round of counselling for national quota seats. Therefore, it is necessary to request an extension of the deadline for engineering admission," Mr. Prasanna said.

Three students injured as govt. school window lintel collapses in Devanahalli

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A complaint has been lodged against BEL, which constructed the building under a CSR initiative

Three students were seriously injured after the lintel of a window collapsed at the Government Boys Higher Primary School, Kote, Devanahalli town, near Bengaluru, on Monday.

One student's left leg was fractured. Of the three injured students, one remains admitted at Hosmat hospital while another has been shifted to Victoria Hospital for further treatment. One student, who was admitted at Bowring hospital, has been discharged.

Minister for School Education and Literacy Madhu Bangarappa visited the injured students in the hospitals on Tuesday. The Minister assured the parents that all medical expenses will be fully borne by the Department of School Education and Literacy (DSEL). He directed officials to monitor the students' health round-the-clock.

The Minister instructed officials from the Public Works Department (PWD) to carry out a thorough inspection of the school building and submit a detailed report.

Senior district officials, including the Deputy Commissioner (DC) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Bengaluru Rural Zilla Panchayat, visited the school and issued necessary directions.

"The safety of children is our top priority. The government will ensure proper care, medical support and strict action to prevent such incidents in the future," Mr. Madhu Bangarappa said.

The headmaster of the school has lodged a complaint against Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), which constructed the building under a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative.

"The building of this school was constructed by BEL in 2015 through CSR funds. It is not a very old building. However, due to poor construction work, three students were injured when the lintel of a window collapsed. Therefore, the headmaster of school has filed a complaint against BEL," said Bylaanjanappa, Deputy Director of Public Instruction (DDPI), Bengaluru Rural district.

Four held for series of house break-in thefts

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Govindaraj Nagar police have arrested four habitual offenders allegedly involved in nine house break-in thefts in and around the city and recovered valuables worth ₹44.2 lakh from them.

The accused, identified as Mohammed Fayaz, 59, Budesh Gowda, 52, Prasad, 49, and Fayaz Devi, 39, had allegedly burgled a house in Mudalapalya on July 17 and escaped with a silver bracelet and passport.

Based on a complaint, the police, with the help of technical details, tracked down the accused.

The accused are habitual offenders involved in house break-in thefts in and around city, and other districts, city police commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh said.

Ejipura flyover hit by fresh delay, completion now set for June 2026

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The much-delayed Ejipura flyover project has encountered yet another setback, forcing the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to extend its deadline once more, this time to June 2026. The earlier target for completion was March 2026.

BBMP Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao stated that delays in land acquisition and the slowing pace of construction had compelled the civic body to push the deadline.

Earlier this month, a small crack in the structure caused panic, prompting the BBMP to rope in a professor from the Indian Institute of Science to assess the issue.

'No major lapses'

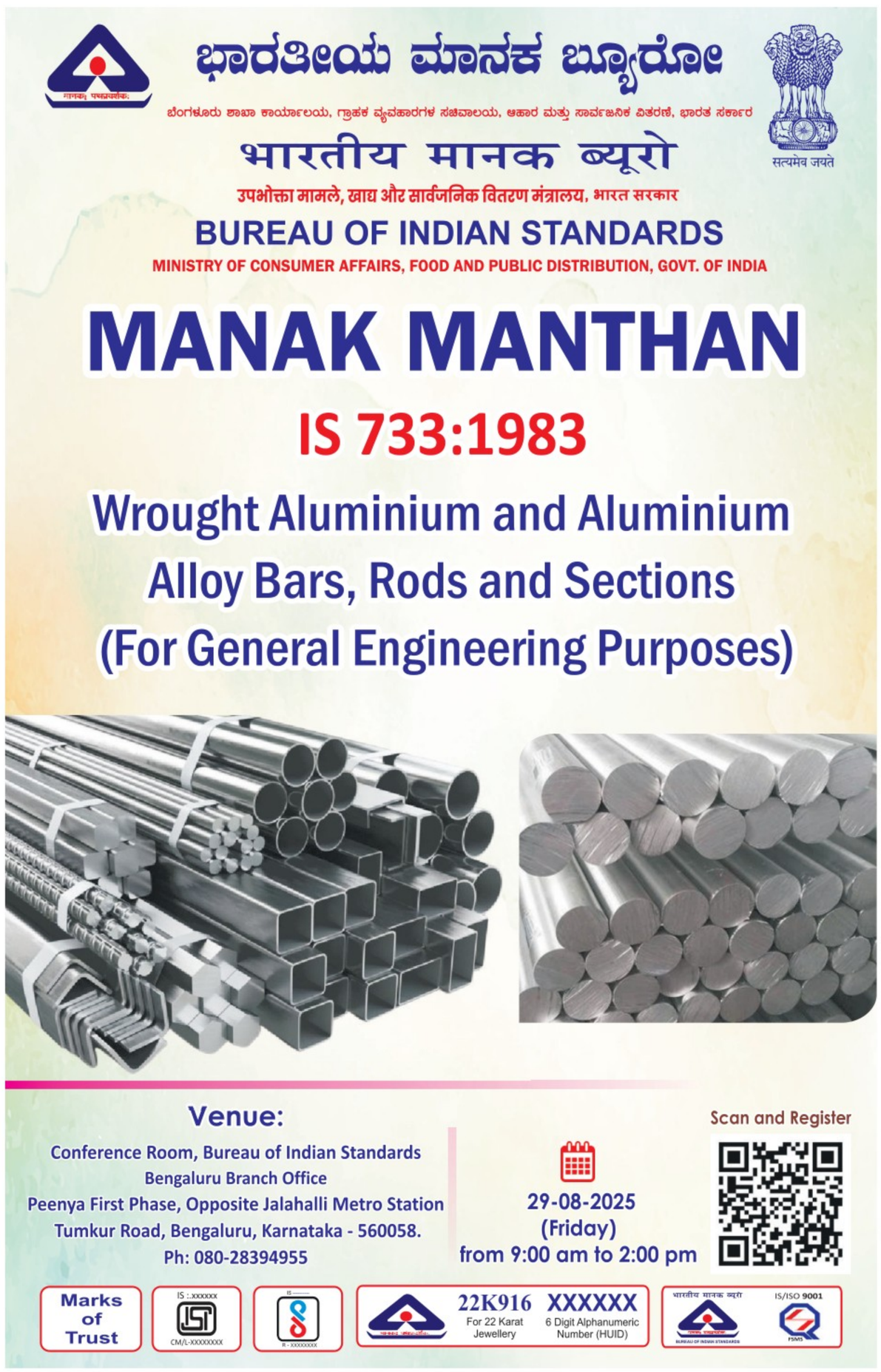
Mr. Rao confirmed that the report found no major lapses and ruled out any structural weakness.

"There was a minor problem in the launching girder, which led to the crack. We will conduct additional tests and fix it with extra reinforcement," he explained.

Turning to other projects, Mr. Rao said that white-topping works on J.C. Road is currently under way and should be completed within the next 20 to 25 days. However, full completion of the stretch and its reopening for full traffic will take a few more months, according to another source.

Mr. Rao revealed that traffic congestion at the Hebbal flyover and the Silk Board junction has eased following the opening of a new loop at Hebbal and the launch of the metro's Yellow Line. He added that once another loop under construction is completed, traffic flow in the area is expected to improve further.

A file photo of undergoing work of Ejipura flyover work at Koramangala near Sony junction in Bengaluru. The earlier target for completion was March 2026.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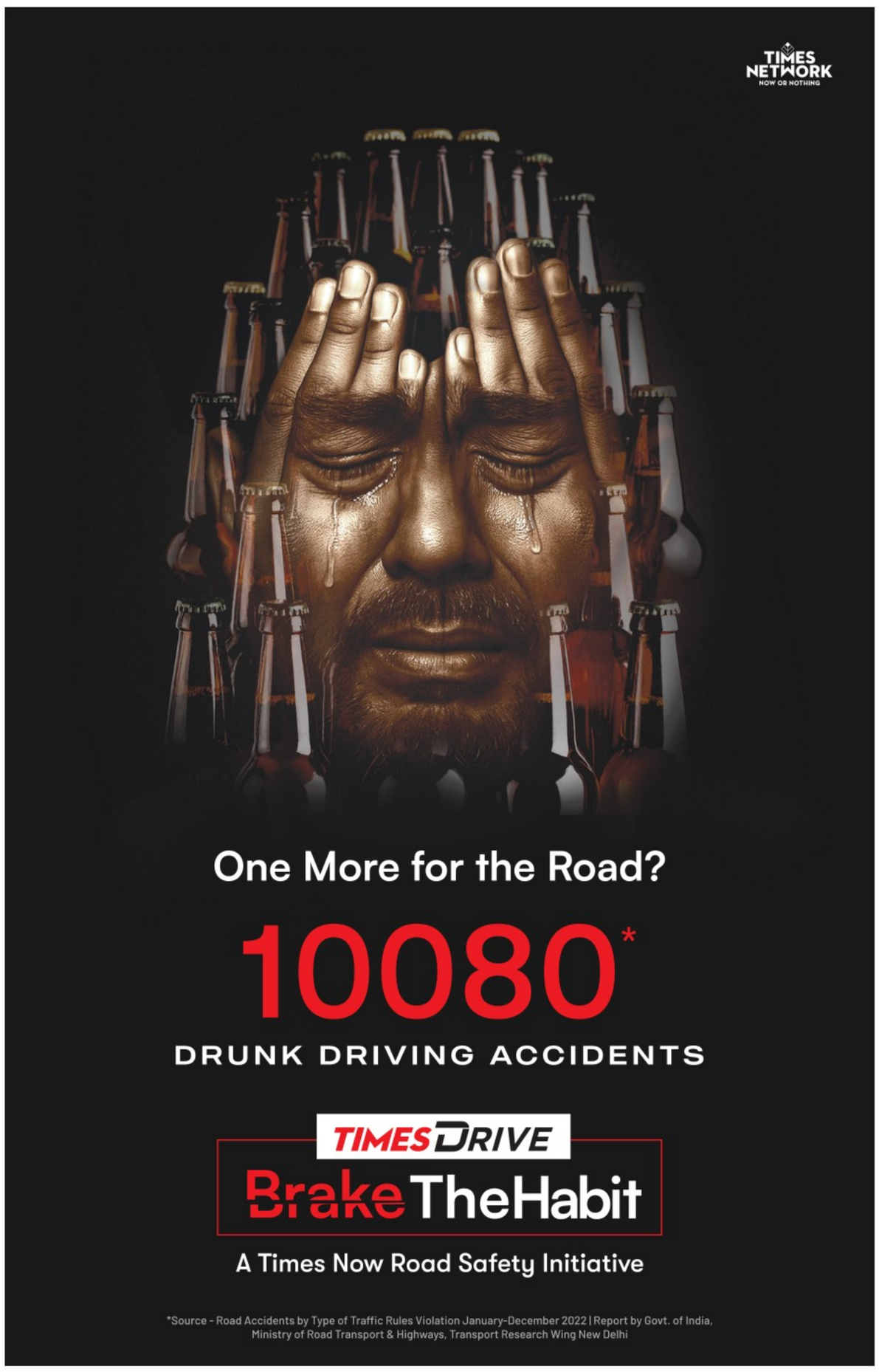
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264 irreparable potholes identified by BBMP in city

The civic body has identified 3,995 potholes within its jurisdiction with the East Zone recording the highest number (784), followed by Mahadevapura (638), and the South Zone (593)

Chetan B.C.
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), which has taken up pothole-fixing exercise, has declared 264 of the identified potholes are "irreparable" and requiring a partial makeover.

On August 11, the BBMP received a list of 4,614 potholes across the city from the Bengaluru Traffic Police. After filtering them, the BBMP identified 3,995 potholes within its jurisdiction. Among these, the East Zone recorded the highest number with 784, followed by Mahadevapura (638), the South Zone (593), and Bommanahalli (520).

Of the 3,995 potholes, 264 were found to be worse than regular potholes, as they extend more than 8 to 10 m in length and are wider than usual.

Of the 3,995 potholes, 264 were found to be worse than regular potholes, as they extend more than 8 to 10 m in length and are wider than usual. SUDHAKARA JAIN

> "More such stretches will be identified once the ongoing pothole-fixing works are completed
>
> **RAGHAVENDRA PRASAD,** Chief Engineer (Road Infrastructure)

'Many beyond repair'

Raghavendra Prasad, Chief Engineer (Road Infrastructure), admitted that the damage in many of these stretches is beyond basic repair and requires fresh relaying due to the extent of deterioration.

"More such stretches will be identified once the ongoing pothole-fixing works are completed. We will study the damage and come up with suitable methods to fix such stretches," Mr. Prasad told *The Hindu*.

Dashboard

Mr. Prasad further revealed that his department has developed a unified dashboard that integrates all BBMP applications and helpline platforms. This system will consolidate citizen complaints about potholes onto a single dashboard, which will then automatically assign the issue to the executive engineers responsible for repair.

He urged citizens to upload pictures of damaged roads on official complaint platforms so that repair works can be taken up promptly.

However, commuters on the city's outskirts have accused the civic body of evading responsibility. Manoj Kumar, a resident of Varthur who commutes daily via Sarjapur Road, noted that the BBMP often ignores his complaints by citing "jurisdiction" issues.

A senior BBMP officer dismissed these allegations, stating that the BBMP promptly repairs potholes listed on official grievance platforms within its limits, though he admitted there have been delays in some cases. Mr. Prasad attributed the delays to the earlier absence of a centralised monitoring system, which has now been addressed through the new dashboard.

Mr. Prasad explained that the dashboard helps identify and assign responsibilities to other agencies responsible for certain stretches. For example, potholes have been categorised for repair by agencies such as BMRCL, BDA, Bescom, and others. The progress of all such works is also being tracked.

Fact sheet

Agency	Potholes under their purview
BBMP	3,287
BWSSB	203
BESCOM	35
GAIL	06
BMRCL	206
KPTCL	52
NHAI	161
KRDCL	04
PWD	13
BDA	28

Zone wise potholes (Top four)	
Zone	**Potholes**
East	784
Mahadevapura	638
South	593
Bommanahalli	520

DKS inspects pothole filling work in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar inspected ongoing pothole filling work near Bagalur in the north-eastern part of Bengaluru on Monday night. He said that similar work is under way across the city.

The Deputy Chief Minister said that MLAs bring up the pothole problem frequently, and added that the civic authority has employed novel measures, including monitoring potholes through a public-centred app called 'gundi gamana', to expedite repairs. "Citizens can lodge complaints through the app, and the police have been directed to submit reports of potholes within their jurisdiction," he said.

"Across Bengaluru, more than 5,000 potholes have been identified. Of these, 4,400 have been prioritised. In the last four days alone, 2,200 potholes have been filled," Mr. Shivakumar said. Alongside the repair work, the civic body has taken up initiatives to improve cleanliness, including cleaning skywalks. "It is not enough to simply fill potholes; the quality must be maintained. Currently, potholes are being repaired using three methods, including hot mix, cold mix, and eco-fix," he said.

"Heavy traffic, monsoon, and other challenges affect road durability. That is why we are gradually moving towards concrete roads (white topping), which can last up to 30 years," he added.

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar inspecting filling of potholes in Bengaluru on Monday

Military-civil fusion meeting

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

A military-civil fusion meeting was organised at the Maratha Light Infantry Regimental Centre (MLIRC) in Belagavi on Monday.

MLIRC Commandant Brigadier Joydip Mukherjee chaired the meeting.

Tushar Giri Nath

ACS pushes for swift road repairs, pothole filling

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Additional Chief Secretary of the Urban Development Department and Administrator of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Tushar Giri Nath, has directed civic officials to prepare a timeline for restoring roads dug up by the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board.

At a multi-stakeholders review meeting in Vikas Soudha on Tuesday, Mr. Giri Nath noted that several stretches were excavated for laying drinking water and sewer lines but had not been reinstated. He said about 7.3 km of roads remain affected and instructed officials to identify these stretches and commence restoration immediately.

Mr. Giri Nath stressed that pothole-filling must be accelerated, particularly on arterial and sub-arterial roads. Traffic police have been asked to inspect repaired stretches to ensure quality.

Raising safety concerns, Mr. Giri Nath directed Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited to relocate transformers placed on footpaths and roadside areas. The utility has been asked to prepare a detailed list and initiate prompt action.

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग प्रथम जोधपुर
क्रमांक 8063 निविदा संशोधन सूचना-1 दिनांक 13.08.2025
(निविदा सूचना संख्या 14/2025-26), NIB Code No.PWD2526A2311
इस कार्यालय द्वारा जारी निविदा सूचना संख्या 14/2025-26 दिनांक 29.07.2025 में क्रम संख्या 1 से 3 पर वर्णित कार्यों की ऑनलाईन निविदा प्रस्तुत किये जाने की दिनांक 03.09.2025 सायं 5.00 बजे तक अपरिहार्य कारणों से बढाई जाती है एवं तकनीकी निविदा 03.09.2025 को सायं 6.00 बजे खोली जायेगी। कार्य की अनुमानित लागत में निम्नानुसार आंशिक संशोधन किया जाता है :-

क्र. स.	कार्य का नाम	पूर्व वर्णित अनुमानित लागत राशि रूपये (लाखों में)	संशोधित अनुमानित लागत राशि रूपये (लाखों में)
1	बोरानाड़ा से सालावास किमी 0/.0 से 8/0 UBN: PWD2526WLOB08483	1084.00	1076.00
2.	बासनी सर से धुन्धाड़ा से जिला सीमा तक किमी 25/0 से 34/0, 39/0 से 40/0 एवं 43/600 से 63/300 UBN: PWD2526WLOB08486	4193.00	4144.00
3.	गुड़ा से भाण्डू कलां वाया मोगड़ा सालावास नन्दवान सिरखेड़ा किमी 0/0 से 23/0 UBN: PWD2526WLOB08490	3755.00	3656.00

निविदा में वर्णित अन्य सभी शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।
(एन.सी. शर्मा)
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता,
सा.नि.वि. संभाग प्रथम, जोधपुर
DIPR/C/11902/2025

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No.SBC-GSU-ENGG-2025-03
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Development of Infrastructure for Disaster Management Preparedness and Allied facilities with M&Ps including 140T Crane shed, Service Building and Road Mobile ART with HRD and other Equipment at Bengaluru Coaching Depot (Composite tender).	Rs. 2,44,78,757.38

Last date for submission of bids: Upto 11:00 Hrs on 11-09-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Chief Project Manager, Gati Shakti Bengaluru
PUB/405/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

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Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 • 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 • 2335700

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I, MIHIR Jivrajbhai Hapaliya, s/o: Jivrajbhai Popatbhai Hapaliya, r/o: F–03 , 1st Floor Krishna Brookfields Aces Layout, Kundalahalli, Bengaluru,–560037. Have Changed My Name To Mihir Jivraj Hapaliya. Affidavit Date On 25/08/2025.

I, KHUSHBU, d/o – Ravjibhai Vallabhbhai Kapuriya, r/o: F–03, 1st Floor Krishna Brookfields Aces Layout, Kundalahalli, Bengaluru–560037. Have Changed My Name To Khushbu Ravjibhai Kapuriya. Affidavit Date On 25/08/2025.

I, VEDANT Nitin Deshpande s/o Nitin Narayan Deshpande. r/o: No.102, Shiva Sai Acrcade, 9th MN, 5th CRS, HRBR Layout, Blr–560043. Have changed my name as Vedant Deshpande. Vide affidavit on 26/08/2025.

I, MONNA Misro s/o Surendra Prasad Misro. r/o: Shri Sai Lake Ville, Balagere Rd, Devasthanagalu Varthur, Blr–560087. Have changed my name as Munna Misro. Vide affidavit on 26/08/2025.

I, HRIDA, d/o – Mihir Jivraj Hapaliya, r/o: F–03, 1st Floor Krishna Brookfields Aces Layout, Kundalahalli, Bengaluru,–560037. Have Changed My Name To Hrida Mihir Hapaliya. Affidavit Date On 25/08/2025.

I, SHILPA Anandraj, M/o Samuel Anandraj Kohly, R/at Flat No.G-07, Ground Floor, Sri Krishna Shrine Apt, Swagath Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-560097, have changed my son's name from Samuel Sebastian Romeles to Samuel Anandraj Kohly vide Affidavit dated 21/08/2025 sworn before Notary K.V.Prema Kumari, Bangalore.

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I, SHRADDHA Anandraj Kohly, R/at Flat No.G-07, Ground Floor, Sri Krishna Shrine Apt, Swagath Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-560097, have changed my name from Shraddha Sebastian to Shraddha Anandraj Kohly vide Affidavit dated 21/08/2025 sworn before Notary K.V.Prema Kumari, Bangalore.

I, SHILPA Anandraj Kohly, R/at Flat No.G-07, Ground Floor, Sri Krishna Shrine Apt, Swagath Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-560097, have changed my name from Shilpa Sebastian Romeles to Shilpa Anandraj Kohly vide Affidavit dated 21/08/2025 sworn before Notary K.V.Prema Kumari, Bangalore.

I, Juliana Rita D'souza W/o Mr. Valerian Francis Monterio R/o No. 86/1, chiguru, Ist Main,b Channasandra Road, B. Channasandra, Bangalore 560043 have changed my name to J.RITA D'SOUZA.

LEGAL NOTICE

Before the Hon'ble MACT Vadakara,
Kozhikode Dist, Kerala
OP (MV) 766/2022

V J Kurian : *Petitioner*
Asif Ahmed, S/o.Wazeer Ahmed
NH-4, Busalakunte VI,
Mulbagal Taluk, Kolar District
Karnataka - 563131
: *Respondent No.1*

That the above case is posted to 02.09.2025 for the appearance of Respondent No.1, otherwise he will be set exparte by the Hon'ble Court.

(Sd/-) **J S Rajesh Babu**
Advocate for petitioner

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is represented to the Undersigned that **Mr. Sampath Reddy Kasarla S/o Mr. Narayana Reddy Kasarla, aged about 58 years,** residing at Flat No. 505, Mayuri Apts, Amberpet, Andhra Pradesh 500036, has lost/misplaced the original Agreement to Sell & Construction Agreement dated 11/06/2014 executed by **M/s Brigade Properties Pvt. Ltd** in favour of **Mr. Sampath Reddy Kasarla,** pertaining to Apartment No. I-434, on the Fourth floor of Block 'I' in the project 'BRIGADE COSMOPOLIS' and Apartment measuring 1360 sq. ft., of super built-up area situated at **Whitefield village, K.R. Puram, Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk.** After his best efforts to search he could not trace the same. In this regard, our client has registered **Lost Report bearing No. 1767793/2025, dated 25/08/2025,** before Karnataka State Police.

It is further represented that he has not mortgaged, created any lien or encumbered the aforesaid property in any manner or pledged the original as security to any loans/borrowings. Any person/s in possession of the aforesaid original documents shall return the same to the Undersigned or lodge their claims with documentary evidence within seven **(7) days** from the date of this notice.

Vinod. R., ADVOCATE,
STERLING LAW PARTNERS,
No. 1656, Balaji Nilayam, 1st Cross,
Mariyappanpalya, Rajajinagar,
Bangalore 560021
Contact No. 7411531524
Place: Bengaluru Date: 27/08/2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to the general public that my client **Shri. Jayaprakash,** Vinayaka layout, Hebbal-Kempapura intends to purchase the Schedule property from the Lawful owner **Shri. Harish Kumar B s/o. Late V.S.Bhaskar,** No.727, 4th B cross, 9th Main, K.N.Extention Bengaluru-560 022. Originally schedule site allotted to Smt. Rukmini W/o. M. Krishnan Who claims to be the absolute owners of the Schedule Property has sold to Shri. V.S.Bhaskar by way of sale deed on 23-09-2006.

Any person/s ascertaining any right, title interest, share, claim, charge in the schedule property or person/s having any agreement of sale to the schedule property may kindly bring in to the notice of the below said address or call to the given phone numbers within **10 days** from the date of publication of this notice, with all documentary proof. If any claims after 15 days it will be treated as no claim and my client will proceed with sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable residential site bearing **No.452** khatha PID No.396/395/452 formed by coffee board housing Society approved by BDA in different survey numbers layout is called **"COFFEE BOARD LAYOUT, Hebbal Kempapura ,Bengaluru,560 024,** admeasuring East to West **15.24 meters** and North to south **24.38 meters (50 x 80 feet)** and bounded on:

East by : Site No.1424, West by : Road, North by : Site No.1446, South by : Site No. 1448

M.P. Srikanth, Advocate,
No.11, 5th Main, New BEL Road,
Bengaluru-560 094
Ph: 9448465524/ 9900944944
Email: srikanthjavali@gmail.com

ಕೆನರಾ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Fifteaz Syndicate

MADHAVNAGAR BRANCH, #12/6, Kumarcot Layout, Madhavnagar, Bengaluru - 560001 Mail Id: cb0788@canarabank.com

DEMAND NOTICE TO BORROWER / GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR

Notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

To,
Borrower : 1) M/s. URS SAFERYDE LLP, No 22 Srikantan Layout, Crescent Road Cross, Kumara Park East, High Grounds, Bangalore 560001.
2) Mr. RAKESH RAJE URS K (Partner and Guarantor of M/S. URS SAFERYDE LLP) S/O. G KRISHNE URS,
3) Mr. RISHI R URS (Partner and Guarantor of M/S. URS SAFERYDE LLP) S/O K RAKESH RAJE URS
4) MRS. MAYA B SRIDHAR (Guarantor of M/S. URS SAFERYDE LLP)
No. 2,3 & 4 are at : No 22 2nd Floor ,cresent Road Cross, Kumara Park East, High Grounds, Bangalore 560001.

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Canara Bank, **Madhavnagar Branch (0788)** (hereinafter referred to as "the secured creditor"), appointed under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, (hereinafter referred as the "Act") do hereby issue this notice to you as under:

That **M/s URS SAFERYDE LLP** (hereinafter referred to as "the Borrower"1) represented by Partners **Mr. RAKESH RAJE URS K and Mr. RISHI R URS** has availed credit facility / facilities stated in the Schedule A hereunder and has entered into the security agreement/s in favour of the secured creditor. While availing the said financial assistance, you have expressly undertaken to repay the loan amount/s in accordance with the terms and conditions of the above-mentioned agreements.

That **1. Mr. RAKESH RAJE URS K, 2. Mr. RISHI R URS, 3. Mrs. MAYA B SRIDHAR** (hereinafter referred to as the Guarantor") has guaranteed the payment on demand of all moneys and discharge all obligations and liabilities owing or incurred to the secured creditor by the Borrower for credit facilities up to the limit of Rs.5,00,00,000.00 (Rupees Five Crore only), with interest thereon.

You have committed default in repayment of loans as mentioned below and the loans were classified as Non Performing Assets on **31.03.2025**

The Bank through this notice brings to your attention that you have failed and neglected to repay the said dues/ outstanding liabilities and hence hereby demand you under Section 13(2) of the Act, by issuing this notice to discharge in full the liabilities of the Borrower as stated in hereunder to the Bank **within 60 days from the date of receipt of this notice.** The notice under Sec.13(2) of the Act sent to you by Post. Ack. Due on **11.08.2025** was not acknowledged by you.

Further, it is brought to your notice that you are also liable to pay future interest at the rate together with all costs, charges, expenses and incidental expenses with respect to the proceedings undertaken by the bank in recovering its dues.

Please take note of the fact that if you fail to repay to the Bank the aforesaid sum of **Rs. 5,34,73,098.46 (Rupees Five Crores Thirty Four Lakhs Seventy Three Thousand Ninety Eight And paise Forty Six only)** together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs as stated above in terms of this notice under Section 13(2) of the Act, The Bank will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub-section (4)(a) and (b) of Section 13. You are hereby restrained from dealing with any of the secured assets detailed below in terms of Section 13(13).

Your attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

SL NO	Loan No	Nature of Loan/ Limit	Liability with interest	RATE OF INTEREST (Inclusive of penal interest)
1.	170013783622	MSME TERM LOAN	Rs. 5,34,73,098.46	11.85%

Details of Security Assets : **Movable :** Hypothecation of Vehicle- 20 Number of STAR BUS PRIME-46 SEATER- AC LP 712/45 DSL SKL 3*2 RDE school Bus. **Name Of Title Holder : M/S URS SAFERYDE Immovable : SCHEDULE-A1 PROPERTY :** (Description of entire property on which dwelling units comprising of ground,first and second floor are constructed)

All that piece and parcel of residential property earlier bearing site No.17 formed in premises number 8 of erstwhile Crescent Road,High grounds,Bangalore subsequently bearing Municipal No.22,PID No.77-101-22 New No.33,1st Main, Srikanthan Layout, Bangalore measuring east to west 40 feet, north to south on the eastern side 70 feet, on the western side 86 ½ feet in all measuring about 3130 square feet along with three car parking slots in the ground floor together with building comprising of ground, first and second floor each measuring about 1150sft and entire property bounded on the : **East by :** Site No.18 (Old Number), **West by :** Site No.16 (Old Number), **North b y :** Storm water drain and **South by :** Road.

SCHEDULE-B1 PROPERTY

(Description of property being mortgage owned by Smt Maya B Sridhar)

All that piece and parcel of residential unit on the SECOND FLOOR constructed on Schedule A Property bearing bifurcated Municipal No.22/2,PID No.77-101-22/2 with a super built up area of 1150 square feet (SBA) along with one car garage on the western side in the ground floor measuring about 150 Sft. Along with 1/3rd undivided ownership share, right title and interest in the site of schedule 'A' property amounting to 782.5 sft(UDS) with right to use the common amenities and proportionate share in common areas like ingress, egress areas and other such common areas of schedule A property.

SCHEDULE-B2 PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the Schedule House Property bearing No.646, situated at Dattagally, 'I' Block, Ramakrishnanagar, 3rd Main, 3rd Block Chamaraja Mohalla Mysore with under mention linear measurement and boundary ,measuring East to West 12 Mtrs. And North to South 18 Mtrs. totally measuring to an extent of 216 Square Mtrs. and bounded on : **East by :** Property bearing No.647, **West by :** Property bearing No.645, **North b y :** Property bearing No.642 and **South by :** Road.

Name of Title holder: Smt. Maya B Sridhar.

* Since the Borrowers herein filed a W.P.No. 8282/2025 on 17-03-2025 before the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka and obtained an Interim Stay. Now the Hon'ble Court vide order dated 22-07-2025 has disposed off the said writ petition and ordered that upon expiry of time stipulated, i.e. two weeks, the direction to the respondent Bank not to precipitate, would seize to operate.

Place : Bangalore
Date : 26.08.2025
Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

ಕೆನರಾ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)

Canara Bank ARM - II Branch,
2nd Floor, Circle Office, Spencer Towers, No.86, M G Road, Bengaluru-560001.
Telephone numbers 080-25310099, 080-25310181,
E-mail: cb6298@canarabank.com

DEMAND NOTICE TO BORROWER / GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR

Notice Issued Under Section 13(2) Of The Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002

To,
Borrower : (1) Mr.Srinivasa Gowda B T S/o. Mr,Thimmaiah, #813/A.1st Main Road, NGO Layout, Vrushabhavathi Nagar, Bangalore-560079. **And also Available at :** # 17/3, Ashokapura Community Hall Road, Industrial Sub-Urb, Yeshwanthapura, Bangalore-560022.
(2) Mrs. Mangala H B (Guarantor) W/o. Mr. Srinivasa B T, #813/A, 1st Main Road, NGO Layout, Vrushabhavathi Nagar, Bangalore-560079.
(3) M/s.V N G Developers (Builder) Represented by Its Managing Partner and Partner CH. Laxmareddy, #M005, Renaissance Exotica Jakkur Plantation Road, Bellari Road, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560064.
(4) Mr. Mukka Vinod Kumar (Builder Mng Partner) available at: "Antrelia Homes" Sy.No.91/2,92/4 & 92/5 Thirumenahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North-560064.
(5) Mr. CH. Laxmareddy (Builder Partner) # M005, Renaissance Exotica Jakkur Plantation Road, Bellari Road Yelahanka, Bangalore-560064.

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **Canara Bank ARM II branch** (hereinafter referred to as "the secured creditor"), appointed under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, (hereinafter referred as the "Act") do hereby issue this notice to you as under:

That **Mr.Srinivasa Gowda B T** (hereinafter referred to as "the Borrower") has availed credit facility / facilities stated in the Schedule A hereunder and have entered into the security agreement/s in favour of the secured creditor. While availing the said financial assistance, you have expressly undertaken to repay the loan amount/s in accordance with the terms and conditions of the above-mentioned agreements.

That **Mrs.Mangala H B W/o Srinivasa Gowda B T** (hereinafter referred to as "the Guarantors"), has guaranteed the payment on demand of all moneys and discharge all obligations and liabilities owing or incurred to the secured creditor by the Borrower for credit facilities (Fund based / Non-Fund Based) up to the limit of **Rs. 1,46,00,000.00/- (Rupees One Crores Fourty Six Lakhs Only)** with interest thereon.

You **Mr.Srinivasa Gowda B T** have entered into agreements against the secured assets which are detailed in Schedule B hereunder.

However, from **26.11.2018** the operation and conduct of the said financial assistance / credit facilities have become irregular. The books of account maintained by the secured assets shows that the liability of the Borrower towards the secured creditor as on **24.08.2025** amounts to **Rs. 2,96,58,655.80/- (Two Crores Ninety Six lakhs Fifty Eight Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Five Rupees and Eighty Paise Only)** plus further Interest and charges thereon, the details of which together with future interest rate are stated in Schedule C hereunder. It is further stated that the Borrower/Guarantor having failed to keep up with the terms of the above said agreement in clearing the dues of the secured creditor within the time given and have been evasive in settling the dues. The operation and conduct of the above said financial assistance / credit facility/ies having come to a standstill and as a consequence of the default committed in repayment of principal debt/ instalment and interest thereon, the secured creditor was constrained to classify the debt as Non-Performing Asset (NPA) as on **26.02.2019** in accordance with the directives/guidelines relating to asset classification issued by the Reserve Bank of India.

The secured creditor through this notice brings to your attention that the Borrower has failed and neglected to repay the said dues/ outstanding liabilities and hence hereby demand you under Section 13(2) of the Act, by issuing this notice to discharge in full the liabilities of the Borrower as stated in Schedule C hereunder to the secured creditor within 60 days from the date of receipt of this notice. Further, it is brought to your notice that you are also liable to pay future interest at the rate of mentioned in schedule C together with all costs, charges, expenses and incidental expenses with respect to the proceedings undertaken by the secured creditor in recovering its dues.

Please take note of the fact that if you fail to repay to the secured creditor the aforesaid sum **Rs. 2,96,58,655.80/-(Two Crores Ninety Six lakhs Fifty Eight Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Five Rupees and Eighty Paise Only) as on 24.08.2025** together with further interest (as stated in schedule C) and incidental expenses and costs as stated above in terms of this notice under Section 13(2) of the Act, the secured creditor will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub-section (4)(a) and (b) of Section 13, the extract of which is given here below to convey the seriousness of this issue:

13(4)- In case the Borrower/Guarantor fails to discharge liability in full within the period specified in sub-section (2), the secured creditor may take recourse to one or more of the following measures to recover his secured debt, namely;

(a) Take possession of the secured assets of the Borrower/Guarantor including the right to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realizing the secured asset.

(b) Take over the management of the business of the Borrower including the right to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realizing the secured asset:

Provided that the right to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale shall be exercised only where the substantial part of the business of the Borrower is held as security for the debt.

Provided further that where the management of whole of the business or part of the business is severable, the secured creditor shall take over the management of such business of the borrower which is relatable to the security for the debt and under other applicable provisions of the said Act.

Your attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

You are also put on notice that in terms of Section 13(13) the Borrower/Guarantor shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed in Schedule B hereunder without obtaining written consent of the secured creditor. It is further brought to your notice that any contravention of this statutory injunction/ restraint, as provided under the said Act, is an offence and if for any reason, the secured assets are sold or leased out in the ordinary course of business, the sale proceeds or income realized shall be deposited with the secured creditor. In this regard you shall have to render proper accounts of such realization / income.

This notice of Demand is without prejudice to and shall not be construed as waiver of any other rights or remedies which the secured creditor may have including further demands for the sums found due and payable by you.

This is without prejudice to any other rights available to the secured creditor under the Act and/or any other law in force.

Please comply with the demand under this notice and avoid all unpleasantness. In case of non-compliance, further needful action will be resorted to, holding you liable for all costs and consequence.

Your attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

SCHEDULE - A

[Details of the credit facility/ies availed by the Borrower]

SL. NO.	Loan No.	Nature of Loan/Limit	Sanctioned Amount (Rs.)	Disbursed Amount (Rs.)
1	3800619000026	Housing Loan	Rs. 1,46,00,000/-	Rs. 1,40,00,000/-

SCHEDULE –B

[Details of security assets]

Details of Immovable Assets

SL. NO.	Nature	Name of the title holder
1	Flat	Tripartite Agreement in Favour of Borrower
	SCHEDULE-A PROPERTY (Description of the full land where villa is being constructed) : All that piece and parcel of the residentially converted lands being Sy.No.91/1, measuring 01 Acre 09 Guntas, Sy.No.91/2 measuring 04 Acres,Sy.No/92/4,measuring 02 Acres 26 Guntas and Sy.No.92/5,measuring 18 Guntas,altogether measuring 08 Acres 13 Guntas,Situated at Thirumenahalli Village,Yelahanka Hobli,Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore. **SCHEDULE-B PROPERTY (Description of the villa with undivided/proportionate share in the land) :** All that piece and parcel of the residential Plot being No.66, in a Layout known as "ANTALIEA HOMES" ,formed out of residentially converted lands to the extent of 08 Acres 13 Guntas in Sy.No.91/1,91/2,92/4 and 92/5 of Thirumenahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobbli, Bangalore North Taluk measuring East to West 15 meter and North to South 9 meter, in all measuring 1453.14 Square Feet and bounded on the: East by : 9 Meter Road, West by : Plot No.61, North by : Plot No.65 and South by : Plot No.67. **SCHEDULE-C PROPERTY :** Residential Independent Villa No.66 to be constructed in Schedule B Property with a super built up area of 2835 Square Feet.	Mr.Srinivasa Gowda B T

SCHEDULE – C

[Details of liability as on date 24.08.2025]

SL. NO.	Loan No.	Nature of Loan/Limit	Principal as on date 24.08.2025	Interest and other charges as on date 24.08.2025	Total Liability as on date 24.08.2025	Rate of Interest
1	3800619 000026	Housing Loan	Rs. 1,46,43,274.81	Rs. 1,50,15,380.99	Rs. 2,96,58,655.80	9.20%

Date : 25.08.2025
Place : Bengaluru
Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

Skeletal remains in garbage dump creates panic in Parappana Agrahara

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Panic gripped the residents of Govindashettipalya in Parappana Agrahara police station limits when parts of a skeleton were found in a roadside garbage dump on Tuesday morning. The incident occurred when pourakarmikas found parts of a skull and bones in the heap of garbage.

According to police, a 51-year-old resident had discarded the skeleton near a rajakaluve after a foul smell began emanating from his house. His daughter, a second-year MBBS student at a private medical college in the city, had brought the skeleton for her studies. While the police were conducting an inquiry at the spot, the man himself arrived and admitted that he had dumped the skeleton.

ED questions Mangaluru cooker blast case accused

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A file photo of Mohammad Shariq.

Continuing investigations into money laundering and hawala transactions, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials questioned the prime accused in the Mangaluru cooker blast case, Mohammad Shariq, at the central prison at Parappana Agrahara here on Tuesday.

The ED, on August 5, had provisionally attached one movable property in the form of a bank balance of ₹29,176 available in the account of Syed Yasin, one of the accused in the case, under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

The officials questioned Shariq about the source of the money they would get through different channels and the details of the expenditure.

The ED probe allegedly found that different cryptocurrency dealers deposited a total of ₹2.8 lakh in the mule accounts, and ₹41,680 was collected in cash from Point of Sales (PoS) agents.

"The said amounts were utilised for the purchase of the items online to assemble the IED [Improvised Explosive Device] and for hiring hideouts in Mysuru city and other places, and also for conducting recce at various places in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka, and the bomb was supposed to be planted specifically at Dharmasthala Manjunatha Swamy temple. It had exploded in the autorickshaw as the bomb timer was set as '09 seconds' instead of '90 minutes'," an ED release said.

The ED investigation revealed that an ISIS online handler named 'Colonel' had given training over apps like Wickr/Telegram etc. to the main accused Mohammad Shariq alias Premraj and other accused persons, to make an IED/bomb and also arranged funds through certain mule accounts and cryptocurrencies which were at times encashed by Syed Yasin and Mohammad Shariq through PoS agents for a commission, and at some instances the encashed cryptocurrencies were routed through the fraudulently opened mule accounts, the release added.

Dasara rehearsal gains momentum

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The Dasara rehearsal gained momentum on Tuesday with all 14 elephants, brought to the city in two batches, taking part in the full-length march along the designated procession route.

The second batch of five elephants – Hemavathi, Srikanta, Sugriva, Rupa, and Gopi – arrived here on Monday evening and joined the first group of nine elephants already camping at the Mysuru palace.

The jumbos of the second batch were weighed as part of the routine monitoring of their health and readiness for the festivities.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 27	
RISE 06:08	SET 18:34
RISE 09:13	SET 21:11
THURSDAY, AUG. 28	
RISE 06:08	SET 18:33
RISE 10:00	SET 21:48
FRIDAY, AUG. 29	
RISE 06:08	SET 18:32
RISE 10:49	SET 22:28

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	23
Mysuru	31	18
Bengaluru	28	20

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather will be dry. Day will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Night also will be pleasant. Short spell of light rain and thundershower may occur.

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Residents of Sagar stage protest

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

Residents staged a protest opposing the Sharavathi Pumped Storage Project (PSP) in Sagar town, Shivamogga, on Monday. They urged the State government to drop the project considering the damage it could cause to the Western Ghats.

The peopleunder the banner of the Sharavathi Pumped Storage Project Struggle Committee, took out a protest march.

Abhinava Channabasava Swamy of Mulegadde Math, addressing the gathering and urged the government to respond to the people's feelings on the issue and withdraw the project.

THE HINDU
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THE HINDU
OPPORTUNITIES

ENGG./PRODN./TECH.

TECH-PERFECT SOLUTIONS FOR THE NATION'S DEFENCE
BHARAT ELECTRONICS LIMITED
(A Govt. of India Enterprise under the Ministry of Defence)
(CIN: L32309KA1954GOI000787)

ADVT NO.BEL/HYD/2025-26/04
WALK-IN-SELECTIONS

Bharat Electronics Limited, a Navratna and India's Premier Professional Electronics Company requires professionals for the following posts on short term basis for its Hyderabad Unit.

Discipline	Vacancies	
	Project Engineer-I	Trainee Engineer-I
Electronics	06	55
Mechanical	04	11
Computer Science	01	01
Electrical	01	–
Civil	01	–
Total	13	67

Please visit Careers tab on our website: www.bel-india.in for detailed advertisement, online application process and walk-in dates. Candidates are advised to visit our website regularly for updates.
Date: 27.08.2025 ADDL GENERAL MANAGER (HR)

GENERAL

Advt. No. 71/2025
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
DIRECTOR (PRODUCTION)
in
ITI LIMITED
Last date of submission of application by applicants is by 15:00 hours on 08th September, 2025
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal Officers to PESB is by 17:00 hours on 17th September, 2025
For details login to website
https://pesb.gov.in

To Advertise in
The Hindu Opportunities column,
Please contact,
gurunathareddy.s@thehindu.co.in or
Ph: 9845529981

PUDUCHERRY TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
A STATE UNIVERSITY OF THE GOVT OF PUDUCHERRY
(ERSTWHILE PONDICHERRY ENGINEERING COLLEGE)
PILLAICHAVADY, PUDUCHERRY-605014.
Advt. No. PTU/REG/REC/2025/2108/166 Dated : 26-08-2025
NOTIFICATION FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF REGISTRAR
Puducherry Technological University invites applications from eligible candidates for appointment to the post of Registrar.
The appointment is for a tenure of 3 years.
The details regarding the post, essential qualifications, emoluments, terms and conditions of service, application procedure, and other relevant information are available on the University website: www.ptuniv.edu.in
Last Date for Submission of Online Application: 26.09.2025 (5.00 PM IST)
Last Date for Receipt of Hard Copy of Application with Enclosures: 30.09.2025 (5.00 PM IST)
No.359/DIP/AD(Press)/2025-26 REGISTRAR (i/c)

APPOINTMENT

KERALA INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT FUND BOARD
2nd Floor, Felicity Square Building, Statue, MG Road
Thiruvananthapuram-695 001
Ph:0471-2780900, email: financeadmin@kiifb.org
Invites Applications for the post of
'Deputy General Manager- Institutional Finance Group'
No. of Post - 1
Term of appointment: On contractual basis for 3 years
Educational Qualification & Experience :
MBA from a Tier 1 institution with 7 years of experience
Upper Age Limit: 40 years
Last date of Application- 08/09/2025
For further details and submission of application through online mode please visit our website: www.kiifb.org/careers

GOVT. OF BIHAR
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES
Build New Enterprises
Generate Employment
Create Wealth
BIHAR INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION PACKAGE 2025
For the first time in Bihar
Free land
₹100 cr. Investment & 1000 direct employment (10 acre free)
or
₹1000 cr. Investment (25 acre free)
or
Fortune 500 companies (10 acre free)
For others - 50% off on BIADA Land rate
Financial Incentives
Option 1
Interest Subvention (maximum upto ₹40 cr.)+ SGST Reimbursement (upto 100%)
Option 2
NET SGST Reimbursement of upto 300% of approved project cost in 14 Years
Option 3
Capital Subsidy (upto 30% of Approved Project Cost)
KEY INCENTIVES
Employment Generation Incentive
For textile units upto ₹5000 per month per employee, 300% of ESI and EPF.
For others upto ₹2000 per month per employee, 100% of ESI and EPF.
Export Incentive: For 14 Years (Maximum 40 lakhs per year).
Skill Development Incentive: Upto ₹20,000 per worker.
Environmental Protection Incentive: 25% reimbursement upto ₹1 cr.
Renewable Energy Usage Incentive: @20%, maximum amount of ₹6 lakh.
CFC Development Incentives: Case to case basis.
Other Incentives: Patent Registration, Quality Certification Support.
Pr No 012916-Industry D. 2025-26

Dovetailing is allowed for Incentives offered through other State Government Policies and GoI policies.
Industry in every home, employment in every family
Bihar – Fast Tracking Progress, Empowering Tomorrow
Follow Us /BiharIndustriesDept /IndustriesBihar state.bihar.gov.in/industries

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ISSN 0971 - 751X

‘State’s invite is an opportunity to fulfil vow to Chamundeshwari Devi’

Active politicians should have a sense of what to politicise and what not to, says Banu Mushtaq

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

Banu Mushtaq

Playing down the Right wing’s opposition to her being invited to inaugurate the Dasara celebrations in Mysuru, author Banu Mushtaq has said that the State government’s invitation was an opportunity to fulfil a vow to the Goddess Chamundeshwari.

Speaking to presspersons in Hassan on Tuesday, the Booker Prize winner said that her Mysuru friend and writer Meena Mysuru had made a vow before Chamundeswari Devi when her book was longlisted for the Booker Prize.

“During my visit to Mysuru after winning the prize, my friend wanted us both to visit the temple to fulfil the vow. However, that day, we could not go and decided to visit the temple the next time. Now, the government, by inviting me to inaugurate Dasara, has offered me an opportunity to fulfil the vow,” she said.

Referring to comments made by politicians, Ms. Mushtaq said she received an overwhelming response from crores of Kannadigas when she won the award. “Why should I react to the negativity of a few people? People themselves are replying to those negative comments,” she said.

However, she opined that the active politicians should have a sense of what to politicise and what not to. “I wish the tribe of Mysuru MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar would grow in the BJP. He has given a clear statement on the issue with no ambiguity,” she stated. Some people had also spoken negatively about the Booker Prize.

“I am not hurt by such statements. It is their opinion. But it is not easy to win the Booker Prize. Because of the prize, I am speaking about the Kannada language at different forums. I am reading out Kannada texts at international events,” she said.

About viral clip

Further, referring to her speech, a video clip of which is being circulated on social media, the writer said, “I spoke at Jana Sahitya Samavesha in 2023. The event was organised as a mark of protest against the exclusion of Muslim writers from the Akhila Bharata Sahitya Sammelana held at Haveri that year. At the event, I spoke as a representative of the downtrodden people and women. The people who were present there know very well what I spoke about then. People need to understand my words through their hearts,” she added.

Kannada Sahitya Parishat general secretary Madan Gowda and Hassan district Kannada Sahitya Parishat president H.L. Mallesh Gowda felicitated Banu Mushtaq on her being chosen by the State government to inaugurate Dasara celebrations.

Chamundi Hill is not property of Hindus alone, says DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar addressing a press conference at Vidhana Soudha on Tuesday.

Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar on Tuesday defended the State government’s decision to invite Kannada writer Banu Mushtaq to inaugurate the Dasara festivities atop Chamundi Hill in Mysuru on September 22. He said, “Chamundi Hill is not the property of Hindus alone. All communities, including Muslims, go to the hill to pray to god.”

Speaking to reporters here, Mr. Shivakumar, who sang the RSS anthem in the Legislative Assembly and later apologised, said, “We go to mosques, dargahs, Jain basadis, churches and gurudwaras. Has anyone prevented us from going to gurudwaras? Have we opposed them coming to Hindu temples? Anyone can go to any Shraddha Kendra [centre of faith],” he said.

Responding to the BJP’s opposition to the inauguration of the grand Dasara festival by Banu Mushtaq, Mr. Shivakumar said many Hindus have converted to Islam and Christianity, while people of other religions have converted to Hinduism. “Aren’t Muslims practising Hindu rituals? Why did they not put up boards saying that only Hindus should come to the Ram temple in Ayodhya? Why were the Haj Committee and Minority Departments not abolished in the entire country when the BJP government was in power earlier or now? All this is politics,” he retorted.

Noting the practice of secularism in the country, the Congress leader said: “Our Constitution has provided opportunities and freedom to everyone. Everyone has the protection of the Constitution. Everyone believes in their faith. Children born to a Muslim or a Christian woman, or Hindu or any other religion, follow whatever they want.”

SIT searches activist Mahesh Shetty Thimarody’s house

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the alleged burial of bodies in Dharmasthala took the complainant in the case to the residence of activist Mahesh Shetty Thimarody, near Ujire, on Tuesday, and searched the house.

Armed with a search warrant from the Belthangady court, the team searched the house as Mr. Thimarody who is said to have sheltered the complainant before the team arrested him (the complainant) for perjury on August 23.

Sources said that Mr. Thimarody was not present in the house when the team searched to gather evidence and information. The team also visited the house of Mohan Shetty, brother of Mr. Thimarody nearby, but did not carry out a search there.

Mr. Thimarody is presently out on bail after the Brahmavar police in Udupi district arrested him on August 21 on charges of making derogatory remarks against BJP’s national general secretary (Organisation) B.L. Santhosh. A magistrate court in Udupi granted him bail on August 23.

Meanwhile, one Sujatha Bhat, who has made contradictory statements over what she has claimed as her daughter going missing in Dharmasthala in 2003, appeared before the SIT office in Belthangady for questioning on Tuesday.

Sources said that Belthangady police did not question YouTuber M.D. Sameer on Tuesday.

After questioning him for two days on Sunday and Monday, the police asked him to appear before them for questioning whenever required. The Dakshina Kannada police have registered three cases against Mr. Sameer.

BJP says Shivakumar should’ve quit Congress instead of apologising

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

> RSS prayer is all about patriotism. You forgetting patriotism just to prove your loyalty to the Gandhi family is a tragedy
>
> **V. SUNIL KUMAR**
> MLA, BJP

Ridiculing Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar for apologising over his singing of a stanza from the RSS anthem in the Legislative Assembly, the Opposition BJP has maintained that he should have either desisted from apologising, or tendered resignation to the primary membership of Congress if he had any self respect and courage.

Taking a dig at Mr. Shivakumar as well as the Congress over the episode of apology, Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok took to social media to say that the meaning of the first stanza of RSS anthem sung by the Deputy Chief Minister in the Assembly meant offering salutations to Mother India for nurturing everyone with affection. “Is it wrong to offer respects and salutations to Mother India for her providing shelter and affection?” he wondered.

Alleging that the Congress defends the action of shouting pro-Pakistan slogans in the corridors of Vidhana Soudha, but looks at those offering salutation to Mother India as criminals, he wondered if such a behaviour did not reflect anti-national mindset.

Mr. Ashok urged Mr. Shivakumar to disclose as to who directed him to tender an apology. “The Deputy CM should specify whether the apology was tendered at the behest of Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, K.C. Venugopal, Surjewala or Hariprasad,” he said. Accusing Mr. Shivakumar of shelving patriotism due to the lust for power, he said it was the tragedy for the State that such a person was trying to become Chief Minister.

BJP leader V. Sunil Kumar too took a dig at Mr. Shivakumar by asking him to be loyal to the country and not to the Gandhi family. “RSS prayer is all about patriotism. You forgetting patriotism just to prove your loyalty to the Gandhi family is a tragedy,” Mr. Sunil Kumar said.

UKP-III plans discussed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who also holds the Water Resources portfolio, on Tuesday convened a meeting with Ministers concerned to discuss the land acquisition and rehabilitation for the third stage of the Upper Krishna Project (UKP-III) that involves increasing the full reservoir level of the Almatti dam.

The government has stated that it is committed to increasing the height of the Almatti dam from the present 519.6 metres to 524.26 metres to help complete the third phase of UKP. Law Minister H.K. Patil, Industries Minister M.B. Patil and Excise Minister R.B. Thimmapur, who also attended, discussed pending court litigations with respect to the acquisition of land.

The third stage of the project requires relocating villages due to submergence threat. It would include the construction of new lift irrigation schemes at various locations to utilise the additional water allocated to Karnataka by the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal.

HC directs Home Minister’s college to pay compensation for cheating student of MBBS seat

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has directed Home Minister G. Parameshwara-headed Sri Siddartha Academy of Education (SSAHE), Tumakaru (a deemed to be university), to pay a compensation of ₹15 lakh to a student for not admitting her to the MBBS course in its medical college in the academic year 2017-18.

“Granting a seat in the MBBS course to a less meritorious candidate was *per se* arbitrary and illegal, and cannot be excused under any circumstances,” said a Division Bench comprising Justice Anu Sivaraman and Justice K. Manmadha Rao in its recent order on a petition filed by Sanjana V. Tumkur in 2018.

Being a deemed university, SSAHE was authorised to conduct its own counselling to admit students to the MBBS course based on NEET rank. SSAHE had allotted a seat to the petitioner who had paid ₹15.65 lakh as fee for the first year as prescribed, while submitting original educational certificates. After this, the college told her that she had to get a bank guarantee for the amount of the fee that she had to pay for the remaining years of the course.

When she went to submit the bank guarantee, the officials of SSAHE told her that admissions were over, and that the list of admitted candidates had already been sent to the Medical Council of India, without her name on it.

Her advocate, Ajoy Kumar Patil, had contended that amongst the list of admitted candidates, all those below serial number 15 were less meritorious than the petitioner.

While acknowledging their error, the SSAHE authorities had offered a free medical seat under management quota in the year 2018-19, but did not honour their assurance even though she qualified for the MBBS course in 2018.

As a result, she had to secure a seat under the management quota in another college by paying a hefty fee.

Meanwhile, SSAHE disputed the assurance of a free seat, which was given in writing by its then chancellor, who died subsequently, by stating that there is no such letter in its record, while also contending that she was not admitted as she did not submit a bank guarantee within the time prescribed.

However, the court declined to accept SSAHE’s claims while pointing out that it had not taken any action as per the law if the written assurance was not a genuine one.

The court noted that the chancellor’s assurance in writing was countersigned by the principal of Sri Siddaratha Medical College, Tumakuru.

To the contention that the petitioner did not submit a bank guarantee within the prescribed time, the court pointed out that there was no condition regarding this in the admission prospectus of SSAHE.

Two held for peddling drugs in Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Jalahalli police on Tuesday arrested two persons for peddling drugs in the city and recovered 41.3 kg of ganja worth ₹41 lakh from them. The accused, identified as Vinay, 20, and Vinayaka, 20, from Tumakuru, were allegedly held red-handed while selling the drugs to their customers near Goraguntepalya bridge. The duo have been booked under the NDPS Act. The duo allegedly confessed to having sourced the drugs from their contact in Odisha.

Prime accused in Shivaprakash murder case arrested in Delhi

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) on Tuesday arrested rowdy-sheeter Jagadisha, 42, a prime accused in the murder of realtor and rowdy-sheeter Shivaprakash, 44. Shivaprakash was murdered outside his residence near the Ulsoor lake on July 15. Jagadisha was on the run since the murder. The police had issued a lookout circular after realising that he had fled the country. Jagadisha was arrested as soon as he landed at the Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi. Police claim that Jagadisha is a gangster and an associate of BJP MLA Byrathi Basavaraj.

GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION
BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT

B. D. C. No. B1 / 2109 / 2025 — **e-TENDER NOTICE (TWO COVER SYSTEM)**

e-Tenders are invited by the Superintending Engineer (Buildings) for the following works as per details furnished below

Construction of **Various Works in Zone 04, 05, 06 & 14. (UNDER CAPITAL FUND & MPLAD FUND) (5 Packages)**

Lowest Work Value: Rs.**1,18,59,559.67** Highest Work Value: Rs.**7,84,53,350.94**
EMD **1%** of the Work Value

Tender Last Date and Time:	Tender Open Date and Time:
15.09.2025 up to **3.00** P.M,	**16.09.2025** at **11.00** A.M

For more information see **http://tntenders.gov.in**

DIPR / 4697 / Tender / 2025 — **Superintending Engineer (Buildings)**

NOTICE INVITING BID

Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMCL)
In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar-751001
Tel.:(0674) 2380950; Website: www.osmcl.nic.in ;
Email: drugs-osmcl@od.gov.in

Assuring Quality, Saving Lives

Bid Ref. No.: OSMCL/2025-26/OTH-DHS-I/06 Date: 29/08/2025

Online Bids through **e-Tender portal (https://tendersodisha.gov.in)** are invited from eligible bidders for **Supply of Insecticides and Larvicides as per the particulars mentioned below :**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date and time	
1.	Date & time of release of bid	**29/08/2025, 3.00 PM**	
2.	Date & time for submission of queries by E-Mail to Id - **drugs-osmcl@od.gov.in**	**02/09/2025, up to 5:00 PM**	
3.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time
		06/09/2025,3.00 PM	**26/09/2025, 6.00 PM**
4.	Date & Time for submission of Tender Documents, Tender Document Fee and EMD amount as per section-IV of Tender document.	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time
		27/09/2025, 10.00 AM	**10/10/2025, 11.00 AM**
5.	Date & time of Online Technical bid Opening	**13/10/2025, 11:30 AM**	
6.	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the qualified bidders	

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, EMDs, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites : **www.osmcl.nic.in** and **https://tendersodisha.gov.in.** The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof. All notice will be published in the OSMCL website **www.osmcl.nic.in**. Hence the bidders are requested to visit OSMCL website **www.osmcl.nic.in** time to time for any published notice against the tender.

SD/-
Managing Director, OSMC Ltd., Odisha

CAD- OIPR-10112/11/0030/2526

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Udupi
“Rajathadri”, B Block, 1st Floor, Room No. B-208, Manipal, Udupi.

NO:EE/RWSSDU/Tender No. 04/2025-26/JE-1/692 Dated: 26.08.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited by the undersigned on behalf of Governor of Karnataka in “TWO COVER SYSTEM” through Government of Karnataka KPP Portal for the work costing Rs. 75.88 lakhs. Eligible suppliers shall apply for this tender.

Calender of Events

1. The contractor can download the Tender documents from : 26.08.2025
2. Last Date for submission of tenders : 10.09.2025 4.00 PM.
3. Opening of Technical Bid for the Tenders : 11.09.2025 4.30 PM.
4. Opening of Financial Bid for the Tenders : 12.09.2025 11.00 AM.

The blank tender documents can be viewed or downloaded from KPP portal, Details of work/eligibility of contractor/Tender processing fees/dates of events etc. can be had from website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Further information can be had from the undersigned during office hours. Right of acceptance of tender is reserved.

E-proc portal helpdesk: 080-22371090/22373788
Hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com

Sd/-, Executive Engineer
Rural Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Division, Udupi

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR LOST DOCUMENTS

The General Public is hereby informed that (1) Mr. Dhrubadeb Chaudhuri and (2) Mrs. Rehana Chaudhuri, both residing at No. 872 G, Michael Palya Road, HAL III Stage, New Thippasandra, Bengaluru 560 075, have lost /misplaced General Power of Attorney dated 18.12.1989 executed by Mr. Sandeep Guttal and General Power of Attorney dated 11.07.1989 executed by Ms. Shalmali Guttal in favour of their mother Mrs. Chandrika Guttal, used to execute Sale Deed dated 20.12.1990, registered as Document No.3065/1990-91, at the office of the Sub-Registrar, Shivajinagar, Bangalore, and the same is not traceable till date in respect of the property as described in the Schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as the **Schedule Property.**

A Lost Article Report No. 1769173/2025 dated 25/08/2025 has been filed online with the Bengaluru City Police in this regard.

Any person in possession of the above referred original document may kindly handover the same to the undersigned. Except (1) Mr. Dhrubadeb Chaudhuri and (2) Mrs. Rehana Chaudhuri, no other person/s, entity, company, organization, has/have any share, right, title, interest and ownership over the Schedule Property.

Any person or persons dealing with the Schedule Property other than (1) Mr. Dhrubadeb Chaudhuri and (2) Mrs. Rehana Chaudhuri, shall be doing so at their own risk, cost and consequence.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of immovable residential Property **No. 872/G,** bearing E-PID No.3850591607, in HAL II Stage, Bengaluru, measuring East to West : (26+30) / 2 metres and North to South: 18.35 metres, in all measuring **513.80 square metres,** together with a residential building standing thereon comprising of basement, Ground floor, First Floor and Second Floor totally measuring 562 square metres of built up area, and bounded on the:

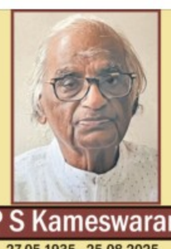
East by : ADE Land;
West by : Road;
North by : Site No.872/H
South by : Site No.872/F

Vivek Anand Anthony Britto
Vir Anthony Britto
Advocates
“Daisville”, 633, 5th Main, Indiranagar II Stage, Bengaluru-560038

Place: Bengaluru Date: 27.08.2025

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH



P S Kameswaran
27.05.1935 - 25.08.2025
Retd., CME / AGM S.Rly passed away at Chennai leaving behind grieving son, daughter & their families.
Ph: 9223416030/93215 50222

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY

Mrs.LEELA MARTHANDAM
D. O. B: 15-08-1946 D. O. E: 27-08-2018
“A mother is not a person to lean on, but a person to make leaning unnecessary”
Missing you deeply...

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES
To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
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DONATE EYES - GIFT SIGHT

From Page One

DKS apologises for singing RSS anthem

Recalling his imprisonment in Tihar jail in Delhi in the alleged money laundering case filed by the ED, he said: "If someone wants to criticise me without knowing my history, conviction and philosophy, it is their wish. Some of my colleagues are criticising me. But if anyone is hurt..., some of my party colleagues were commenting on that, I have a lot of followers... I don't want to hurt their feelings, I feel sorry for them. I would like to apologise to them," he said. He further said: "I will apologise to INDIA bloc leaders, but I am scared of those who want to play politics. Let no one have the feeling that I have been forced to apologise. I am not the type who is scared of threats," he said.

It may be noted that senior Congress leader and MLC B. K. Hariprasad had sought an apology from Mr. Shivakumar, while former Minister K. N. Rajanna had criticised his actions in the recent past, including sharing the stage with Union Home Minister Amit Shah at a function in Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu) during the Mahashivaratri festival organised by the Isha Foundation.

During a discussion raised by the Opposition BJP on the stampede that occurred at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium during RCB celebrations here on June 4, he sang a part of the (RSS) prayer to "pull their (BJP) leg". "Some of my friends take a political leaf out of it, try to misuse it and try to confuse the public. My intention was not to praise the RSS," said the trouble-shooter of the Congress party in the State.

'My loyalty can't be questioned'

"My loyalty to the Congress and the Gandhi family cannot be questioned by anyone. I was born a Congressman and will die as a Congressman," the deputy CM said while speaking to reporters here on Tuesday. Recalling his imprisonment in Tihar jail in Delhi in the alleged money laundering case filed by the ED, he said, "If anyone wants to know my history, to know my commitment, my ideology, and they want to do politics with it, it is left to them. I don't want to comment."

Senior Congress leader B.K. Hariprasad, MLC, sought an apology from Mr. Shivakumar. At the same time, former Minister K.N. Rajanna criticised the Deputy CM's actions in the recent past, including sharing a stage with Union Home Minister Amit Shah at a function in Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu) during the Mahashivaratri festival organised by the Isha Foundation.

Shivamogga Airport marks two years of operations

Facility set to launch FTO & MRO services; so far, the airport handled around 2,400 flights with more than one lakh passengers, says Minister M.B. Patil

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A view of the passenger terminal at Shivamogga Airport.

Shivamogga Airport, the first airport in Karnataka to be operated directly by the State government through Karnataka State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (KSIIDC), is set to introduce Flight Training Organisation (FTO) and Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) services soon.

Announcing this here on Tuesday on the occasion of the airport completing two years of successful operations, Large and Medium Industries Minister M.B. Patil said the facility had so far handled around 2,400 flights with more than one lakh passengers. Over the last two years, IndiGo Airlines has operated more than 670 flights, carrying nearly 31,500 passengers; Star Air has run about 1,200 flights, serving over 47,000 passengers; and SpiceJet has operated 530 flights, carrying 25,000 passengers, he informed in a release.

Upgradation

To cater to the rising demand, the airport is being upgraded to facilitate round-the-clock operations. The upgradation includes the installation of modern navigational aids such as DVOR-DME to ensure safe and efficient flight operations during adverse weather conditions and at night, Mr. Patil said.

The release states that the airport has also expanded connectivity rapidly under the RCS-UDAN scheme, linking Shivamogga to major destinations, including Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai, Tirupati, and Goa. "The overwhelming response from passengers and airlines reflects the region's growth potential. With the planned upgrades, the government is committed to providing seamless connectivity with world-class safety and services," Mr. Patil said in the release.

Cong. vows to fight back CPI(M), BJP

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Besieged by increasingly strident street protests for Rahul Mamkootathil's resignation as MLA on charges of sexual misconduct, the Congress has vowed to take the party's fightback to the doorsteps of the CPI (M) and BJP leadership in Kerala.

On Tuesday, Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan threatened to open a Pandora's box of "incriminating evidence of moral degeneracy" against CPI (M) and BJP's "big names," which he claimed would send the leadership of both the parties scurrying for cover and take the wind out of their respective recriminatory campaigns against the Congress.

The Congress warning came close on the heels of the CPI(M) and the BJP accusing Mr. Satheesan and Kerala PCC working president Shafi Parambil, MP, of bringing them under the purview of their respective and increasingly belligerent anti-Mamkootathil campaigns.

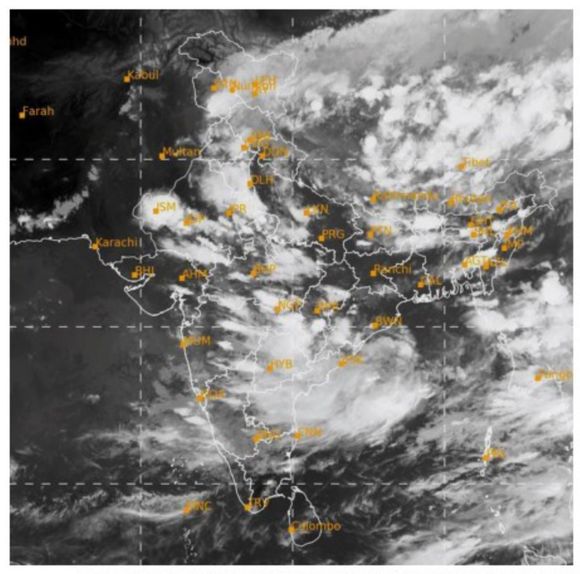
'Nothing to fear'

CPI(M) State secretary M.V. Govindan stated that the party feared no bombshell revelation.

"The Satheesan-Shafi-Mamookotathil triumvirate in the Congress is stonewalling intra-party demands for the Palakkad MLA's resignation by threatening to spill the beans on other leaders and drag them down together with them into the Opposition's deepening morass of sticky scandals," he said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.45 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gujarat, Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Assam, Mizoram, Tripura, West Bengal, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	0.8	34.8	26.8	Kozhikode	—	33.9	24.9
Ahmedabad	0.2	32.6	25.6	Kurnool	—	32.4	24.2
Aizawl	76	32.4	22.3	Lucknow	74	31.9	25.4
Allahabad	27	33.6	25.1	Madurai	—	39.5	26.1
Bengaluru	—	28.0	20.3	Mangaluru	3.7	27.4	23.3
Bhopal	5	29.4	23.6	Mumbai	15	29.0	25.4
Bhubaneswar	4.6	31.8	25.0	Mysuru	—	28.4	19.0
Chandigarh	11	29.9	24.4	New Delhi	10	31.6	23.9
Chennai	—	36.1	27.6	Patna	0.2	33.9	27.7
Coimbatore	—	33.4	23.2	Port Blair	7	29.7	23.7
Dehradun	17	30.6	23.0	Puducherry	—	36.4	26.0
Gangtok	0.7	23.4	18.3	Pune	3	30.2	23.5
Goa	2	28.2	25.6	Raipur	—	32.3	24.1
Guwahati	—	35.0	26.4	Ranchi	13	30.0	21.7
Hubballi	—	27.0	22.0	Shillong	0.6	26.4	17.7
Hyderabad	—	27.0	22.6	Shimla	29	20.5	16.6
Imphal	—	32.2	26.9	Srinagar	3	20.0	15.6
Jaipur	2	31.8	25.5	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.2	24.7
Kochi	—	30.4	25.0	Tiruchi	—	36.9	26.4
Kohima	—	24.0	18.8	Vijayawada	0.2	30.4	26.4
Kolkata	—	34.0	26.4	Visakhapatnam	48	25.8	23.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO₂	NO₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.14	.33	41	23	47	
Bengaluru	.12	—	34	38	124	
Chennai	2	.24	—	63	118	
Delhi	.41	.22	78	63	62	
Hyderabad	.20	.19	30	103	92	
Kolkata	4	.67	14	47	45	
Lucknow	.53	.12	54	38	33	
Mumbai	.26	.16	25	58	64	
Pune	—	.27	67	27	40	
Visakhapatnam	.8	.54	36	44	52	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Aurangabad, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 215 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 11

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO₂: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

HIMACHAL PRADESH INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(Government of Himachal Pradesh)
Regd Office: New Himrus Building, Circular Road, Shimla-171001
Telephone: (0177) 2626696, 2627312

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Government of Himachal Pradesh through H.P. Infrastructure Development Board (HPIDB) invites Expression of Interest for the Empanelment of Merchant Bankers-cum-Arrangers- cum- Advisors to assist & advise the designate HP Government PSUs/ Organizations in raising debt through loans and bond issuances. The empanelment will create a pool of financial institutions that can be engaged on a case-by-case basis to provide a range of services, including structuring, advising, arranging, and executing debt raising transactions.
Interested bidders may send their EOI alongwith other details as per notice inviting EOI available on the HPIDB website http://himachalservices.nic.in/hpidb/ or contact at the address given below. For further updates, please visit our website periodically, all updates shall be posted on website only. **The last date for submission of EOI is 15.09.2025 upto 1600 hours.**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Chief General Manager
Himachal Pradesh Infrastructure Development Board
New Himrus Building, Circular Road, Himland
Shimla-171001, Himachal Pradesh, India
Phone No.: +91 177-2626696, 2627312
Email: hpidb-hp@nic.in

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned government of Karnataka undertaking)
CIN Number: U04010KA2002SGC030436 ,Email:eeitgescom@gmail.com

No: GESCOM/CEE(O)/SEE(Proj)/EE/AEE/AE-1/2025-26/ 39292-98 Date:26.08.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION CALL-3
(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company Limited, Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi invites Bids from eligible Bidders for Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Solar RTPV Grid connected power plants on the Roof-tops on existing Govt. buildings in various O&M divisions of GESCOM jurisdiction including operation & maintenance for a period of FIVE years. Details of Amount put to Tender (excluding GST) of 5 Tenders are as below.
(1)Bidar Division Rs.2.62Crs. (2) Kalaburagi Circle Rs.2.96 Crs (3) Raichur & Gangavati Division Rs.1.65Crs. (4) Koppal Division Rs.4.85Crs. (5) Ballari&Hospet Division Rs.2.68Crs.
Prospective bidders can visit **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after 29-08-2025.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/440/KSMC&A/2025-26

Sd/- Chief Engineer(Operations),
Corporate Office,GESCOM, Kalaburagi.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. PROJECT-SWR-Gr294-TL-CMY
Dated : 19-08-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Design, Supply, Construction, Testing and Commissioning of **(i)** 1 No. of 66kV Terminal Bay at 220/66kV Chintamani Sub-Station **(ii)** 66kV 630 Sqmm Single Circuit UG Cable from 66kV/11kV Chintamani S/S to 220/66kV Chintamani Sub-station for a route length of 0.030 km **(iii)** 66kV line from 66kV Chintamani S/S to 220kV Chintamani Sub-station for a route length of 0.150 km.	**Rs. 2,55,81,090.46**

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 15:00 Hrs on 17-09-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date
Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer/P&P Project/Bengaluru
PUB/402/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Corrigendum to E-Tender Notice No: 15/2025/SBC Dated : 28-07-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the Supply of following items.
Description in brief : Supply of Class 4 Hand Gloves with 36kV working voltage as per IEC 60903:2014, manufactured and tested as per IEC 60903:2014 without joint for Electrical work usage, Proof test voltage: 40kV : withstand voltage: 50kV Manufacturing of gloves should be on or after may-2024 Note: the gloves should be stamped with the operating voltage, Proof test voltage, withstand test voltage, Brand name, Model No. with CE Logo, Tested and manufactured as per IEC 60903:2014. **(Tender No. L8256169) (Qty : 1665 Pairs)**
Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 10:30 Hrs on 01-09-2025
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Materials Manager Bengaluru
PUB/408/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया BOI Bank of India
Bengaluru Zone : # 11, 1st Floor, K. G. Road, Bengaluru-09.
T.: 080-2295 9407 / 08 | E.: bengaluru.ARD@bankofindia.co.in
AssetRecovery.Bengaluru@bankofindia.co.in

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES "APPENDIX-IV-A (See Proviso to Rule 8(6))]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Read with proviso ro Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by **The Authorized Officer of BANK OF INDIA,** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** for Recovery of below mentioned amount/s. The details of Borrower/s/Guarantor/sSecured Asset/sDues/Reserve Price/e-Auction Date, Time & EMD are mentioned below.

Sl. No.	Name & Address of Borrower/s / Guarantor/s / Mortgagor (s)	Description of the Immoveable Property with Known Encumberances	Branch Name Account No; Total Dues	Date & Time of E-Auction	Reserve Price EMD Amount	Status of Possession (Symbolic / Physical)	Property Inspection Time
1.	**Mrs. Lakshmamma W/o. Mr. Venkatesh SN (Borrower) & Mr. Venkatesh SN (Co-Borrower) Both Residing at No. 04, Somanna Complex, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-560097.**	All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing Bangalore North Taluk, Presently Yelahanka Taluk, Yelahanka Hobli, BBMP, Kuvempunagar Ward No. 11, Singapura Village, old Bytarayanapura CMC Katha No. 574/1/31A, presently BBMP Khatha No. 574/1/31C, site no. 31, Measuring East to West : 30 Feet and North to South : 55 Feet Totally Measuring 1650 Square Feet of land with first and Second Floor RCC house belonging to Mrs. Lakshmamma. **The Boundaries of the Property : East by :** SC Varalakshmaiah house property, **West by :** K Narayanappa House property, **North by :** Gunduthopu, **South by :** Road.	**Branch : Virgonagar Branch** A/c. No. 840375110000126 For Recovery of Rs. 71,86,005 (Seventy One Lakhs Eighty Six Thousand Five only) for A/c - 840375110000126 with further interest @ 9.00 % p.a. from 30-03-2025 along with costs and other charges	26-09-2025 between 11.00 am to 05.00 pm	Reserve Price : Rs. 2,06,50,000/- EMD : Rs. 20,65,000/-	Symbolic	10.00 AM To 4.00 PM Contact Details +91 77396 13961
2.	**Mrs. Sreeshaila M.J. (Borrower) W/o N.D. Prabhu, Address : No. 19, Khatha No. 55/2, Dore Layout, Gollahalli, Anjanapura Post, Tulasipura Main Road, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore-560062 Also at : No.56, Jayalakshmi Nilaya, 9th Cross, ISRO Layout, Bengaluru - 560078 and M/s Ankith Associates, Proprietor Mrs. Sreeshaila MJ, No. 102, 4th Cross, Radhakrishna Layout, Padmanabhanagar, Bangalore-560070.**	All That The Piece And Parcel Of The Immovable Property Bearing Site No. 19, Khata No.55/2, Situated At Gollahalli Village Uttarahalli Hobli Bengaluru South Taluk Measuring East To West-30 Feet & North To South 40 Feet In Total 1200 Sq Feet. **Bounded On The : East By :** Site No.18, **West By :** Site No.20, **North By :** Road, **South By :** Site No.24	**Branch : City Engg. College Branch** A/c. No. 896175110000059, 896160510000119, 896160810000072, 896130110000035, & Credit Card For recovery of Rs. 56,52,342.40 (Rupees Fifty Six Lakhs Fifty Two Thousand Three Hundred Forty Two and paise Forty) with further interest from 30-03-2025 along with costs and other charges	26-09-2025 between 11.00 am to 05.00 pm	Reserve Price : Rs. 57,00,000/- EMD : Rs. 5,70,000/-	Symbolic	10.00 AM To 4.00 PM Contact Details +91 77396 13961
3.	**Mr. Ganesh Kumar M Address : No. 64, 3rd Cross, Saibabanagar, Srirampuram, Bangalore 560021 Also at : No. 36/1 Old No. 39 (Western Portion) 1st Main Road, Hanumanthapura, Near Sunrise Circle, Okalipuram Bangalore 560021 and M/s. Sri Sai Enterprises, Proprietor Mr. Ganesh Kumar, No. 20, 21 2nd Cross, Nagendra Garden, Srirampuram Bangalore - 560021.**	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Site No. 36/1-1, Corporation No.36/1-1. PID No. 26-35-36/1-1, in 1st Main Road, Hanumanthpura Near in Ward No.26 (Old No.95) of Sevashrama Sub-Division Oakalipuram Bangalore-560021, Site measuring East to West 22 Feet and North to South 20 Feet, in all measuring 18x3 feet passage including 494 sq. Ft together with building there on of Ground Floor, within the revenue administrative jurisdiction of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike – owned by Mr. Ganesh Kumar M and is bounded on : **East by :** Property bearing Municipal No. 36/1 belongs to Ganesh Kumar, **West by :** Pvt Property, **North by :** Property bearing No.5A, **South by :** Property belonging to Mr. Muninajappa	**Branch : Seshadripuram Branch** A/c - 845375110000111, 845330110000045, 845370410000071, 845370410000104, 845365910000003 For Recovery of Rs. 23,27,260.18 (Rupees Twenty Three Lakhs Twenty Seven Thousand Two Hundred Sixty and Paise Eighteen only) along with further interest, costs and other charges.	26-09-2025 between 11.00 am to 05.00 pm	Reserve Price : Rs. 27,25,000 /- EMD : Rs. 2,72,500/-	Symbolic	10.00 AM To 4.00 PM Contact Details +91 77396 13961
4.	**Mr. Dorai and Mrs. Vijayalakshmi M Both Residing at No. 33 1st Main, 5th Cross, Vibutipura, Near Samudaya Bhavan, Marathahalli Colony, Bangalore 560037**	All that part and parcel of the property bearing Western portion of Site no. 144, having Khatha No. 3129, presently BBMP Khatha no. 144/3129, situated at Vibhuthipura Village, KR Puram Hobli, East Taluk, earlier South Taluk, now within the limits of BBMP, 81 Bangalore measuring 525 square feet– owned by Mr. Dorai and is bounded on : **East by :** Eastern Portion of same property gifted to Sri Muniswamy, **West by :** Property of Sri. Vetri, **North by :** Property of Sri. M Murga, **South by :** Road	**Branch : Richmond Town Branch** for A/c. - 840975110000211, 840962610000089 and 840960810000016 For Recovery of Rs. 31,73,807.35 (Rupees Thirty One Lakhs Seventy Three Thousand Eight Hundred Seven and Paise Thirty-Five) along with further interest, costs and other charges	26-09-2025 between 11.00 am to 05.00 pm	Reserve Price : Rs. 60,43,000 /- EMD : Rs. 6,04,300/-	Symbolic	10.00 AM To 4.00 PM Contact Details +91 99861 76902

To the best knowledge and information available with the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on the property referred above. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of the property and to inspect & satisfy them. The auction will be online E-Auction Sale/Bidding and shall be done only through "Online Electronic Bidding" process through the website https://www.baanknet.com For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in **https://www.baanknet.com or https://www.bankofindia.co.in/tenders.** The Authorised Officer has the absolute right and discretion to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone/cancel the sale/modify any terms and conditions of the sale without any prior notice and assigning any reason. **Date & Time of E-auction: 26-09-2025 between 11.00 am to 05.00 pm** (with unlimited extension of 10 minutes if bidding continues till sale is concluded).

Date : 20-08-2025, 22-08-2025 & 25-08-2025
Place : Bangalore

Sd/-
Chief Manager & Authorised Officer

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice

DRM (Electrical) Jaipur, for and on the behalf of president of Union of India, invites e-tenders for following works: **NIT No.:** EL-JP-42-2025-26, **Name of work:** JP Div. -Rewiring of Service building over Jaipur Division, **NIT Cost:** 13970850.34, **Earnest Money:** 219900/-, **Tender opening:**12.09.25, **NIT No.:** EL-JP-41-2025-26, **Name of work:** Electrical work in connection with Construction of New Three storey building for CMS Office, medical store and CHI office at central hospital., **NIT Cost:** 516920.19, **Earnest Money:** 10300/-, **Tender opening:** 12.09.25, **NIT No.:** EL-JP-05R-2025-26, **Name of work:** JP Div.-Electrical work in connection with Augmentation of community hall at JP, FL, BKI and SIKR station., **NIT Cost:** 1764787.65, **Earnest Money:** 35300/-, **Tender opening:** 16.09.25, **NIT No.:** EL-JP-35-2025-26, **Name of work:** Electrical work in connection with Providing Gang Tool Room cum rest room at KUT and GADJ., **NIT Cost:**619026.12, **Earnest Money:** 12400/-, **Tender opening:** 23.09.25, **NIT No.:** EL-JP-29-2025-26, **Name of work:** Electrical work in connection with Construction of Dog canal at Rewari station., **NIT Cost:** 497425.69, **Earnest Money:** 10000/-, **Tender opening:** 26.09.25, **NIT No.:** EL-JP-02R-2025-26, **Name of work:** Electrical work in connection with Replacement of 10 Units type-II quarter at NMK-03, BDHL-03 & DKBJ-04 station in lieu of abandoned quarter for traffic staff., **NIT Cost:** 930791.13, **Earnest Money:** 18600/-, **Tender opening:** 30.09.25, **NIT No.:** EL-JP-19R-III-2024-25, **Name of work:** Electrical work in connection with provision of S&T office cum store at Lalsot in DO-GGC section., **NIT Cost:** 772794.15, **Earnest Money:** 15500/-, **Tender opening:** 19.09.25. **Note: Date & time of closing of e-tenders:** On tender opening date Upto 15.00 hours, **Date & time of e-tender opening:** On tender opening date after 15.00 hours, **Complete details of tender can be seen on website No.:** http://www.ireps.gov.in

1053-PS/25

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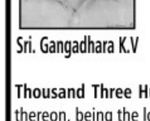
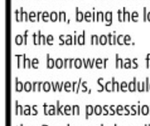
Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha
No.113, R. V. Road, V. V. Puram, Bangalore-560 004.
Phone: 080-25401160/025401161, Mob: 9606018413
E-mail: sssbn3mrh@sreenidhibank.com

PUBLIC NOTICE - POSSESSION NOTICE

APPENDIX-IV
(See Rule 8(1)) r/w Sec. 13(4)(a)


Smt. Soniya .S


Sri. Gangadhara K.V

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of M/s. Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (Central Act No.54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12),13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice dated **21/05/2025** calling upon the Borrower to **Smt. Soniya .S, W/o. Gangadhara K.V,** residing at No.211, 2nd Cross, PC Extension, Near Balajiga Hostel, Near Venugopal Swamy Temple, Kataripalya, Kolara – 563101, demanding to repay the amount of **Rs.23,79,396/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakh Seventy Nine Thousand Three Hundred and Ninety Six only)** together with Interest and Costs thereon, being the loan amount due by them, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower has failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/s, Schedule property owner and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property owned by **Sri. Gangadhara K.V** mortgaged to the Bank and described in Schedule herein below, together with all rights to transfer by way of Lease, assignment or sale for realising the above mentioned amount (Secured Asset), in exercise of the powers conferred on them under Section 13(4)(a) of the said Act read with Rule-8 of the said Rules on this **26th day of August 2025.**

The borrower/s and Schedule property owner in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the said property and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of M/s. Sreenidhi Souharda Sahakari Bank Niyamitha for a sum of **Rs.23,80,293/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakh Eighty Thousand Two Hundred and Ninety Three Only) of Smt. Soniya.S and Rs.40,64,235/- Rupees (Forty Lakhs Sixty Four Thousand Two Hundred and Thirty Five) only of Sri. Gangadhara K.V respectively and both combined together Rs. 64,44,528/- Rupees (Sixty Four Lakhs Forty Four Thousand Five Hundred and Twenty Eight)** only on **26/08/2025** together with interest and costs thereon.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No. 83, Old Municipal No. 363, Assessment No. 92/83, New Khata No.363, Assessment No. 262/9, formed in Sy.No. 76/1, 2 & 3, situated at Harohalli Village, KasabaHobli, Kolar District, Ward No. 15, Kolar Town, measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 40 feet and totally measuring 1200 Sq.ft., along with building consisting of Ground, First, Second and Third Floor and bounded onthe: **East By:** Site No.82; **West by:** Site No.84; **North by:** Site No.80; **South by:** 25 feet Mud Road.

Date : 26/08/2025
Place : Bengaluru

Sd/- (Raghunadha Reddy .G)
Authorised Officer

False righteousness

Courts must protect rights of citizens, not allow the state untrammelled power

In urging the Union government to work on guidelines to regulate speech on social media, the Supreme Court of India is seeking to empower an executive that is already weaponising the legal limits on freedom of expression. In response to a petition by a non-profit assailing derogatory remarks by online figures against disabled persons, the Court issued instructions that further a problematic trend of the judiciary egging on the state to encroach on legal grey areas with statutory restrictions that undermine constitutionally guaranteed rights. To regard distasteful humour, however disturbing it might be, as a problem to be solved through the courts and by executive rulemaking, is to fall into a deceptive trap of imagined righteousness that progressive democracies should avoid. There are always unpleasant consequences in expanding powers to police speech: partisans wield their powers to ferociously monitor what is or is not appropriate, instrumentalising agencies of the state to suppress art and political speech they do not like; citizens find themselves constantly looking over their shoulder before expressing themselves. Under the overbearing atmosphere of censored expression, truths and ideas that must be reckoned with for a functioning democracy are stifled. People should not have to constantly look against asterisks that set terms and conditions for fundamental liberties. Film producers and directors have been pushed away from exploring subject matters that would help India progress socially, and journalists have been dealing with first information reports for carrying out their professional duties.

In recent years, the Union government has, formally and informally, expanded its control of online speech, with the problematic Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, and an amendment to those Rules that would allow social media companies to be proceeded against for content posted by users that has been flagged by the government. Monday's instructions seem set to expand those ambitions, which are themselves under challenge with the Supreme Court. Hate speech and speech inciting violence against minorities are criminalised in India, giving disadvantaged groups powerful avenues of recourse when they are legitimately wronged. Handing an executive, which already has a record of mala fide weaponisation of media and speech regulations, more powers would be dangerous in the extreme. At a fundamental level, such judicial pronouncements, which cite "misuse of freedom of speech" as a ground, seem to misperceive the framework of their institutional role: that of a protector of rights under a clear constitutional framework, and not of an unchallenged lord in a feudal society.

Not truly open

Tennis needs a strong middle tier to see keen contests through two weeks

Sport is at its best when there is a clearly established pecking order and intense competition between the hierarchical rungs. The presence of a dominant and diverse set at the top, followed by a capable and efficient mid-card, and an under-card that can upset the apple cart makes for engaging viewing. However, in recent times, the men's and women's tennis tours have seen a hollowing out of the middle. It is particularly stark in the men's game where Carlos Alcaraz and Jannik Sinner have pocketed the last seven Grand Slam tournaments, talents as effervescent as 2021 US Open winner Daniil Medvedev are threatening to fade away while teenaged phenoms such as Joao Fonseca are rising. At the ongoing US Open, it will be interesting to see if a class that consistently snaps at the heels of the top dogs emerges. The legendary Novak Djokovic, winner of a record 24 men's Slams, has made three semifinals in as many Majors in 2025. The 38-year-old is still good, but the question is if he is good enough to go all the way. Taylor Fritz and Ben Shelton, No. 4 and No. 6 respectively, are out to end the United States of America's 22-year wait for a male Slam winner even as Alexander Zverev will be desperate to prove that his No. 3 ranking is not an anomaly.

Among women, Aryna Sabalenka, Iga Swiatek and Coco Gauff have combined to win 10 of the last 14 Majors. Though the trio's hold at the top is not as water-tight as the Alcaraz-Sinner duopoly, they are the players to beat. World No. 1 Sabalenka, a finalist this year at both the Australian Open and the French Open and a semifinalist at Wimbledon, will be eager to defend her title at Flushing Meadows and avoid a Major-less season. Swiatek, who resurrected her career at the All England Club in July after a year-long slump, has continued her fine touch, winning a key US Open tune-up event in Cincinnati. Gauff has had a forgettable time since securing the Roland-Garros crown but the home setting in New York should energise her. It will be intriguing to watch who among Jessica Pegula (2024 US Open runner-up), Jasmine Paolini, Amanda Anisimova, Elena Rybakina – the 2022 Wimbledon champion – and Emma Navarro turn out to be the challengers. Also of interest will be 18-year-old sensation Mirra Andreeva. The Russian won Dubai and Indian Wells, broke into the top-10, made back-to-back quarterfinals at the French Open and Wimbledon, and is now World No. 5. The cream has risen to the top. Will it stay there?

The ECI's ring fence is the Constitution and the law

P.D.T. Achary

is former Secretary General Lok Sabha

Two major press conferences held in recent weeks have attracted a good deal of national attention. The first was held by the Leader of the Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, on August 7, 2025, in New Delhi, where he highlighted specific instances of manipulation of the voter list in the Mahadevapura Assembly segment of the Bangalore central parliamentary constituency during the 2024 general election. His disclosures included the fact that a large number of voters were enrolled in the voters list having the same address. In some cases, the 'father's name' was given as 'xyz' and the house number as '0'. According to Mr. Gandhi, these facts were unearthed by his team after painstaking research of the Election Commission of India (ECI) documents over six months. These disclosures by Mr. Gandhi have created consternation among the citizens of India – if these are true, the entire electoral system in India would lose its credibility and India's democracy will cease to be a genuine democracy.

The ECI's stand is unusual

The second press conference, also in New Delhi, was held by the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and his colleagues on August 17. It was expected that the CEC would clarify the issues raised by the LoP. However, the statements made by the CEC were a kind of a pushback against what the LoP had said in his press conference. As a matter of fact, the press conference by the CEC left citizens none the wiser as many basic questions were just ignored. The press conference ended with the CEC issuing an ultimatum to the LoP – to either submit the details of his disclosures with a sworn affidavit or apologise to the nation. This unusual stand of the ECI shows that it too has joined the political slugfest. This is a stand that will continue to rattle political parties for a long time.

The ECI is a high constitutional body that is entrusted with the task of superintending, directing and controlling the preparation of electoral rolls and conducting elections to Parliament, State legislatures and to the offices of the President and the Vice President of India. Article 324 of the Constitution vests enormous powers in the ECI to perform this task. It is mandated to conduct elections in a free and fair manner, which is a part of the basic structure of the Constitution. The Supreme Court of India has held that Article 324 is a reservoir of powers which the ECI can draw from in order to ensure that the elections are free and fair. However, it has to function within the Constitution and law.

Issuing an ultimatum to the LoP is not a part of the exercise of power under Article 324 or the election statutes. It is also not a part of the exercise of the powers of the ECI to join the adversarial political discourse in India.

> The Election Commission of India has a constitutional obligation to carefully examine a complaint or a disclosure highlighting serious irregularities in electoral rolls

The episode in Bangalore clearly points to the possibility of electoral lists being tampered with at some level. It is true that Mr. Gandhi's disclosures months after the general election do not fit into the procedural mould created by the Representation of The People Act, 1950. This Act and the rules made thereunder contain a just, fair and transparent procedural framework which provides for multiple layers of scrutiny and public inspection and a just procedure for resolution of disputes. Further, the election statutes assume that there is a finality about elections. Therefore, these statutes cannot deal with the issues which Mr. Gandhi has raised.

The question is how to deal with it. Attempts to counter it with senseless technicalities and a demand for sworn affidavits are non-productive. Article 324 confers enormous powers on the ECI so that it would prepare the rolls and conduct elections in a fair manner. Article 324 implies responsibilities and obligations to exercise that power judiciously. So, when a citizen makes a complaint or a disclosure highlighting serious irregularities in the preparation of the electoral rolls, it is the constitutional obligation of the ECI to examine this carefully and fix the faults in the system. How could 80 voters be registered under the same address when it is clear that they cannot be ordinarily resident there? They voted because their names were on the roll. Who enrolled them and under whose directions are serious questions which need an answer. A person can be registered in a voters' list only if he is ordinarily resident there. This term has been defined as permanent stay at a place. Are all these 80 people residing at one address permanently?

The Representation of The People Act 1950 provides for the revision of the electoral rolls. These rolls can be revised before every election or every year on the direction of the ECI or a special revision in a few constituencies or part thereof for which the ECI needs to record the reasons (Section 21 of The Representation of The People Act, 1950). Rule 25 of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960 shows that the revision done annually can either be summary revision or intensive revision (intensively or summarily or partly intensively and partly summarily).

The Bihar SIR

The ECI is presently engaged in a special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, a State where Assembly elections are due later this year. Actually, neither the Act not the Rules contain any term such as special intensive revision.

There are separate provisions for intensive revision and special revision. This writer is of the view that the SIR suffers from certain legal infirmities. Intensive revision can be done only in January which is the qualifying date whereas a special revision can be done at any time; but this will be limited to certain constituencies or parts thereof.

The Bihar SIR has the qualifying date as July 1, which is in violation of Section 14(b) in The Representation of The People Act, 1950, which says that the 1st day of January shall be the qualifying date. Qualifying date is the date on which the revision or preparation of the roll begins.

There are a number of media reports on the chaotic conditions in Bihar as a result of the SIR. Intensive revision within a month is a contradiction in terms. Rule 25(2) of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960, says that intensive revision means rolls have to be prepared afresh and Rule 8 says that the registration officer shall have to visit every dwelling house in the constituency to prepare the roll. It is anybody's guess whether the registration officers would be able to visit every dwelling house in the whole State within one month and complete the enumeration formalities in accordance with the procedure. This has sparked off a huge political agitation in the State.

The ECI claims that the enumeration process has been completed and 65 lakh voters have been deleted from the roll. Much against the wishes of the ECI, the Supreme Court, in an interim order, directed the ECI to publish the names and the reasons for their deletion. This order of the Court has been welcomed by all.

Prescient words

The ECI is a powerful constitutional authority. But the ECI does not have unfettered powers. The Constitution has not given anybody or any authority it created untrammelled powers which may be misused to the detriment of democracy.

In *A.C. Jose vs Sivan Pillai and Ors.* (1984), Justice S. Murtaza Fazal Ali said, "If the Commission is armed with such unlimited and arbitrary powers and if it ever happens that the persons manning the commission shares or is wedded to a particular ideology, he could by giving odd directions cause a political havoc or bring about a constitutional crisis, setting at naught the integrity and independence of electoral process, so important and indispensable to the democratic system." These are prophetic words.

The gender angle to India's economic vulnerabilities

Anurodh Lalit Jain

is Vice-Chairman, All India Congress Committee (Minority Department) and a Social Economic Analyst

India's economic ascent, which is now valued at $4.19 trillion, has earned it a firm place in the global growth story. The country is poised to become the world's third-largest economy. Yet, this momentum now faces a formidable disruption – the proposed 50% tariffs by the United States President Donald Trump on Indian exports. Targeting $40 billion in trade, these tariffs could shave off nearly 1% from India's GDP striking labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, gems, and leather and footwear which are critical industries that disproportionately employ women.

Unlike China, which has weathered U.S. tariffs through its manufacturing scale and diversified exports, India remains vulnerable. The U.S. accounts for 18% of India's exports; an increase in tariff could lead to 30%-35% cost disadvantage against competitors such as Vietnam leaving Indian exporters exposed. In this moment of crisis, these words appear prescient: "The strength of a nation lies in the strength of its women." India's failure to economically empower half its population is not just a social concern. It is now a strategic liability.

The tariffs threaten to destabilise employment for millions of Indian women. The textiles, gems, leather and footwear sectors, which employ nearly 50 million people, face a projected export decline of up to 50%. Additionally, India's existing low female labour force participation rate (FLFPR) has remained stuck between 37% and 41.7% far below the global average and China's 60%. According to the International Monetary Fund, closing the gender gap could boost India's GDP by 27% in the long term Yet, this is a promise that is stifled by cultural constraints, policy inertia and systemic barriers to employment.

The ticking clock

India is inching closer to its peak of its demographic dividend – a period where the working-age population vastly outnumbers dependents. This window, which could close by 2045, once fuelled growth in China, Japan, and the U.S. – economies now past their prime demographic advantage, with flattening growth curves. India must act to convert this fleeting dividend into sustained prosperity, and this means fully integrating women into the workforce.

> The imposition of U.S. tariffs that threatens to impact millions of Indian women in labour-intensive sectors is a wake-up call – women need empowerment as economic agents

Labour participation by rural women has inched up, but mostly in unpaid and low-productivity family work. In urban India, female workforce participation has stagnated. Safety concerns, unreliable public transport, lack of sanitation, and the crushing burden of unpaid care work continue to push women out of schools and jobs.

India risks the fate of Southern European economies such as Italy and Greece, where low FLFPR has placed a long-term drag on growth. The urgency is clear as it is a now-or-never moment.

Lessons from abroad, solutions at home

Global superpowers offer a road map. The U.S. leveraged women's labour during the Second World War with equal pay and childcare. China's post-1978 reforms drove 60% FLFPR through state-backed care and education. Japan raised its FLFPR from 63% to 70%, boosting GDP per capita by 4%. The Netherlands' part-time work model, with equal benefits, suits India, where women prefer such roles. These nations invested in legal protections, care infrastructure, and skills training, which are areas where India lags. Instead of short-term populism or blanket cash transfers, India needs structural reforms that empower women as economic agents.

Karnataka's Shakti scheme, which offers free public bus travel to women, is one such intervention. Since its launch in 2023, female ridership has surged by over 40%. The scheme has enhanced women's mobility for work, education, and enterprise – especially in rural and peri-urban areas. This has enabled more women to gain improved access to job markets, decrease their dependence on male family members, and achieve greater autonomy.

Redirecting spending from broad welfare schemes to targeted programmes such as tax incentives for female entrepreneurs, digital inclusion drives, and gender-focused skilling platforms can yield more sustainable gains. Formalising gig and part-time work through updated labour codes and social protections would bring millions of women into the formal economy.

Urban Company, a leading gig platform, has onboarded over 15,000 women service providers. These workers earn ₹18,000-₹25,000 in a month, along with access to accident insurance, maternity benefits, and skill development. The platform's emphasis on safety, training and transparent pay highlights how gig work can be empowering particularly for semi-skilled urban women.

On the public side, Rajasthan's Indira Gandhi Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme has created over four crore person-days of work, with nearly 65% of jobs going to women. Its flexible, neighbourhood-based jobs in sanitation, greening and care work have enabled many first-time workers – especially those restricted by domestic duties – to enter the workforce. These cases show that when the state recognises and supports non-traditional work, it can unlock massive economic value.

A moment of reckoning

The looming U.S. tariff shock should serve as a wake-up call. India's economic vulnerabilities are not just due to external threats. They also stem from internal neglect, especially in tapping the potential of working-age women.

Empowering women is not a social gesture. It is a growth imperative. It is the linchpin of demographic dividend utilisation, export competitiveness and equitable development. If India seeks to become a true global powerhouse, its progress must be built on the shoulders of both its men and women. India stands at a crossroads. It can rise by investing in its women. Or it can falter by ignoring them. One path leads to resilience and inclusive growth. The other path leads to missed opportunities and economic fragility.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Court on insensitivity

The Supreme Court of India's direction to the government to form guidelines to regulate conduct on social media is humanity based (Front page, August 26). When millions of people are suffering from all sorts of problems, providing them with more facilities and encouraging them is always good. An Arab proverb listed in the *Oxford Dictionary of Proverbs* says, "Do not grieve that rose-trees have thorns, rather rejoice that thorny bushes bear roses". It can be taken this way. 'Do not grieve that one is physically challenged or handicapped. Rather, rejoice that such persons can excel in life with some confidence'.

A.J. Rangarajan,
Chennai

Constitutional stalemate

The Presidential reference on the powers of the Governor assumes importance because if the reference is answered in favour of the Governor, it would affect the basic structure of the Constitution. The argument of the Attorney General, that the Governor could act on his own discretion and that any Bill passed by the Legislature is subject to the Governor's discretion, would be disastrous for electoral democracy. Article 200 of the Constitution makes it absolutely clear that the Governor should either grant or withhold assent in which case he should send it back to the State Legislature within a reasonable time. If the Legislature passes the Bill again, the Governor has to give assent. Therefore, the powers of the Governor are subject to the Legislature, which is the elected body. For the Attorney-General to make contra-suggestions that the Governor has all the powers to come to his own decision will have serious consequences for electoral democracy and federalism. Such arguments would not only lead to a breakdown of the Constitution but also a crackdown. The voice of the Attorney-General should not merely be the voice of the Union Government. It should be the voice of the Constitution.

N.G.R. Prasad,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

Play-based learning for India's future

Annpurna Devi
Union Minister for Women and Child Development, Government of India

If we are to build a Viksit Bharat, we must start where life begins – by nurturing the potential of our youngest citizens. It is in the joyful laughter of a child at an Anganwadi centre, in the rhymes they sing and the blocks they build, that the promise of our nation's future takes shape. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has placed its youngest citizens at the heart of its development journey. Mr. Modi has redefined our national priorities – not only by investing in universities and digital infrastructure, but by recognising the critical importance of the first classroom a child steps into: the Anganwadi.

In today's India, play is no longer just a pastime; it is policy. And the results speak for themselves. Over the past decade, the Modi government has fundamentally reimagined its approach to early childhood development. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 recognises that 85% of brain development occurs before the age of six. If we seek a smarter, healthier, and more productive population, we must invest where in the first six years of life.

Scientific evidence supports this shift. A study by the Department of Clinical Epidemiology at CMC Vellore found that children who received 18 to 24 months of structured early childhood care and education (ECCE) showed significant and lasting IQ gains – up to 19 points by age five, and 5 to 9 points by age nine.

These findings are aligned with global research. As Nobel Laureate Dr. James Heckman famously said, "The earlier, the better – and the smarter the return." His research estimates that investments in early childhood yield returns of 13-18%.

A child's first school

Recognising both the economic and social importance of ECCE, the Ministry of Women and Child Development launched Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi – an initiative that transforms Anganwadi Centres into vibrant early learning hubs. For the first time, Anganwadi workers are being systematically trained in ECCE, focusing on activity-based and play-oriented approaches using local and indigenous materials. Budget allocations for teaching-learning materials have also been significantly enhanced, and monthly ECCE days have been institutionalised. Today, the Anganwadi Centre is not just a place for nutrition – it is every child's first school, nurturing curiosity, creativity, and holistic development in the most critical years of life.

Holistic development

To guide this transformation, the Ministry has introduced Aadharshila, the National Curriculum for Early Childhood Care and Education for children aged 3-6 years. Aadharshila focuses on the holistic development of children – emphasising not only intellectual growth but also emotional, physical, and social well-being. It approaches learning through structured play, allowing children to grow and thrive in a nurturing environment.

Children are instinctively drawn to play – turning every corner of their world into a space for discovery and joy. With the right environment, this instinct becomes the foundation for lifelong learning. Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi nurtures this spirit by providing safe, structured, and stimulating settings where children can thrive through guided play and learning. ECCE plays a foundational role in shaping the future of our nation.

Under the Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi initiative, Anganwadi Centres across the nation are being transformed into nurturing spaces for holistic early learning. A structured Aadharshila's 5+1 weekly plan ensures that the day begins with 30 minutes of free play, followed by structured activities that enhance language, creativity, motor skills, and social interaction. After a nutritious lunch and rest time, the day concludes with outdoor play and conversation that reinforce values and build emotional connections.

This balanced approach to structured and unstructured play is critical, especially in the light of NEP 2020 which has raised the formal school entry age to six years. Structured ECCE ensures that children are ready for school – emotionally, socially, and cognitively. What is truly heartening is the growing trust of parents across the country. Families who once viewed Anganwadis as just nutrition centres now see them as the first stepping stones in their child's educational journey.

Every child deserves a strong start, right from birth. Recognising the foundational importance of the birth-to-three age group, the Ministry has also introduced Navchetna, the National Framework for Early Childhood Stimulation. This initiative empowers parents and caregivers with simple, play-based, age-appropriate activities to nurture young minds at home.

Parental involvement is key to a child's development. While families in higher-income households may invest in toys and books, it is the role of the state to act as an equaliser for those with fewer means. Through Navchetna and Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi, we are bridging this gap, ensuring that every child, in every corner of the country, receives the stimulation, care, and nurturing they need to thrive from the very beginning.

If India is to truly become Viksit, our youngest generation must be empowered with the right start in life. Play is not a luxury; it is foundational to learning. The Ministry of Women and Child Development remains committed to ensuring that every child gets the opportunity to learn, grow, and flourish, because building the nation begins with nurturing its youngest citizens.

Anganwadi Centres across the nation are being transformed into nurturing spaces for holistic early learning

Cooperatives at a crossroads

The Centre's policy comes at a time of trouble for many cooperative banks and societies

STATE OF PLAY

Tiki Rajwi
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The National Cooperative Policy, 2025, unveiled by Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah in July, has provoked a sharp response from Kerala, which has a rich tradition of incubating and sustaining cooperatives. Ever since the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government created the Ministry of Cooperation under Mr. Shah in 2021, Kerala has been wary of what it describes as unwarranted and unconstitutional incursions into State territory.

The policy has opened a new battlefront in the protracted conflict between the CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front government in Kerala and the Centre over cooperative federalism and the equitable sharing of financial resources. The Left government has consistently viewed actions by the Modi government with respect to the cooperative sector with deep suspicion. Kerala's vast cooperative sector network enjoys grassroots public support, particularly among the rural population including farmers, and manages substantial financial wealth. The policy has added fuel to the allegation that it is merely a BJP ruse to wrest control of this network as part of the saffron party's larger political objectives in Kerala.

Soon after the policy's launch, V.N. Vasavan, the State Minister for Cooperation, had described it as "unconstitutional" and harmful to the interests of cooperatives. Although the National Cooperation Policy professes to adhere to the principles of cooperative federalism, the document ignores the constitutional edict that cooperative societies are a State subject under Entry 32 of the State List in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, he said. Kerala had similar concerns when the Centre sought to enact the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Act in 2023.

Organisations and employees' unions in the cooperative sector have reacted sharply to the policy as well. At a recent convention, the Kerala Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society association passed a resolution denouncing the policy as a challenge to the concept of federalism. The Kerala Cooperative Employees Union termed it an "unconstitutional move" by the Centre to gain control over the sector and gift it to corporates. In pushing through with the policy, the BJP has its eye on deposits worth ₹2.94 lakh crore in the cooperative sector institutions of Kerala, the CITU-backed KCEU has alleged.

Kerala's cooperatives date back to the early decades of the 20th century in Cochin, Travancore, and Malabar. After the formation of the State in 1956, the Travancore-Cochin Cooperative Societies Act of 1951 was succeeded by the Kerala Co-operative Societies Act, 1969. Cooperatives have come a long way since then, expanding their influence over all walks of life. Primary cooperatives serve as a major credit support system in the Kerala economy. They have considerable influence and financial heft.

A few years ago, the Kerala government amalgamated district-level cooperative banks with the Kerala State Cooperative Bank (Kerala Bank). This was done as part of a policy decision to convert the three-tier cooperative credit structure – comprising PACS, district cooperative banks and the State Cooperative Bank – into a two-tier system.

Incidentally, the Centre's decisions with respect to the nation's cooperative sector have come at a time when several cooperative banks and societies in Kerala have found themselves in serious trouble over allegations of embezzlement and non-refund of depositors' money. Scam allegations related to the Karuvannur Service Cooperative Bank in Thrissur district, for instance, had put the CPI (M)-led State government on the defensive. With the credibility of the sector in jeopardy, the government overhauled the Kerala Cooperative Societies Act in 2023, introducing safeguards to plug loopholes and boost public confidence.

What the future holds for the policy and the tussle between the Centre and State remains to be seen. Nevertheless, Kerala's cooperatives, for decades viewed as rural structures, are at a crossroads today. Accelerated urbanisation, changing employment aspirations among the youth, and the seismic shifts happening in sectors such as energy, shipping, science and technology, and health have opened up newer opportunities for their diversification and expansion. How they evolve and adapt to the changing scenario will have a crucial impact on Kerala's economy.

Strong words, weak action: EU's cautious stance on Israel

As the conflict in Gaza intensified, trade between Israel and the EU also grew

DATA POINT

Sambavi Parthasarathy

In a post on X criticising the Dutch Foreign Minister, Caspar Veldkamp, who resigned after failing to secure new sanctions against Israel over the war in Gaza, Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar wrote, "Europe must choose: Israel or Hamas. Every action against Israel directly serves the jihadist axis in the Middle East." His remarks indicate rising tensions between Israel and the European Union (EU). While Israel presses for unequivocal support from the EU, the group continues to adopt a cautious approach. Data shows that despite strong public opposition by EU member countries to Israel and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanhayu, and accusations of war crimes by international bodies, the EU remains reluctant to take any meaningful economic action against Israel.

In fact, Israel's monthly exports to the EU peaked at $2 billion in March 2025 – the highest level recorded during the ongoing conflict **(Chart 1A)**. Similarly, the EU's monthly exports to Israel crossed the $2.4 billion mark only twice since the war began – once in December 2024 and again in March 2025 **(Chart 1B)**. As the conflict intensified, trade between Israel and the EU also grew.

The EU's reluctance to suspend trade ties with Israel is in sharp contrast to its response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Less than a month after Russian President Vladimir Putin invaded Ukraine, the EU reduced both imports from Russia **(Chart 2A)** and exports to it **(Chart 2B)**. This suggests that it views Russia as a direct regional threat, which prompted it to take strong action. On the other hand, it has limited its criticism of Israel to moral condemnations and gestures such as recognising Palestine as a state.

Last month, French President Emmanuel Macron announced that France would recognise Palestine as a state in September. If France follows through, it will become the fourth EU member after Spain, Ireland, and Slovenia, and the fifth European country, to recognise the Palestinian state since October 7, 2023 **(Chart 3).** The U.K., a former EU member, said it would recognise Palestine unless Israel agrees to a ceasefire. So far, 147 of the UN's 193 member states have recognised Palestine.

While merchandise trade continues, Germany, a key military ally of Israel, announced earlier this month that it would halt the export of some military equipment to Israel. Germany has been Israel's second major arms supplier after the U.S., accounting for 33% of its arms imports in 2020-24.

A PEW Research Center survey (January-April 2025) shows that neither Israel nor its Prime Minister enjoy support from Europeans. More than 50% of respondents in 10 European countries (nine EU members and the U.K.) held an unfavourable view of Israel **(Table 4)**. Close to 60% of respondents had no confidence in Mr. Netanyahu. Data from ACLED shows that there were at least 370 pro-Palestinian demonstrations in May alone, in EU member countries.

The unfavourable opinions have also translated into calls for the suspension of the EU-Israel Association Agreement, which came into force in June 2000 and provides the legal and institutional framework for political dialogue and economic cooperation between the EU and Israel. However, at a meeting on July 29 in Brussels, EU foreign ministers proposed that Israel be partially suspended from participating in the £80 billion Horizon research programme.

According to a Reuters report, nine EU countries have also called on the European Commission to come up with proposals to discontinue EU trade with Israeli settlements in occupied Palestinian territories.

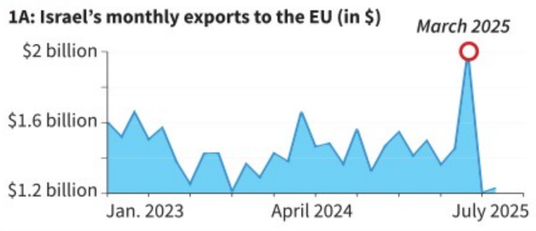
Sitting on the fence

The data for the charts were sourced from the Eurostat, the United Nation's COMTRADE, and the Pew Research Center

A protest in Berlin in solidarity with the children of Gaza. REUTERS

Chart 1: Israel's trade with EU

1A: Israel's monthly exports to the EU (in $)



1B: EU's monthly exports to Israel (in $)

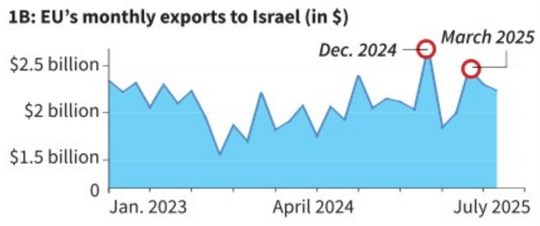
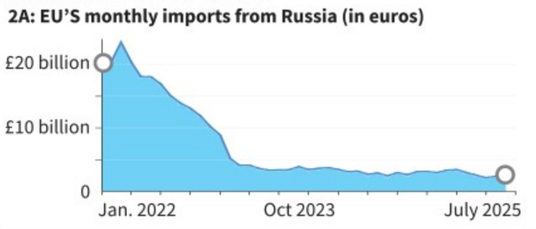


Chart 2: EU's trade with Russia

2A: EU'S monthly imports from Russia (in euros)



2B: EU's monthly exports to Russia (in euros)

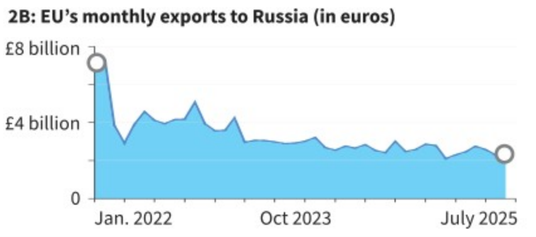
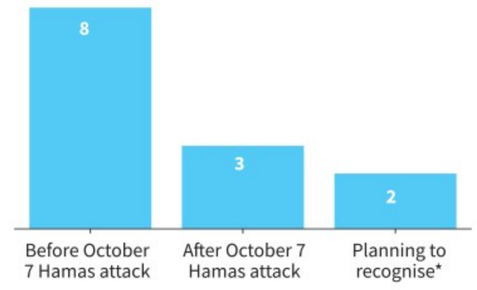


Chart 3: The number of EU countries (including the U.K.) that recognised or are planning to recognise Palestine as a state



**France is set to recognise Palestine in September, while the U.K. said it would recognise Palestine unless Israel agrees to a ceasefire*

Chart 4: Views of the public on Israel and the Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu across select EU countries and the U.K.

	Views on Israel		Views on Netanyahu	
Country	Favorable	Unfavourable	Confidence	No Confidence
France	28%	62%	17%	77%
Germany	30%	64%	21%	76%
Greece	24%	72%	21%	74%
Hungary	36%	53%	31%	57%
Italy	29%	66%	14%	80%
Netherlands	19%	78%	19%	78%
Poland	16%	62%	11%	70%
Spain	18%	75%	11%	84%
Sweden	21%	76%	18%	78%
The U.K.	34%	60%	24%	68%

The survey was conducted by the Pew Research Center between Jan. 8 and April 26, 2025

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 27, 1975

17th century Ramayana paintings in Chengam temple

Madras, Aug. 26: Remarkable paintings of 17th century, depicting the entire epic Ramayana, have just been discovered in the Venugopala Parthasarathi temple in Chengam in North Arcot district by the State Archaeology Department.

The sanctum, the preceding Manadapam and the Mahamandapam of the temple have been built by Nayak chief of Gingee in 1,600 AD. According to an inscription, the name of the principal deity is Arjuna Sarathi and Gopalakrishnaswami. The beautiful idol is holding a whip in its right hand, in addition to bearing the Sanku and Chakra in the upper arms, indicating Krishna acting as the charioteer to Arjuna in the Kurukshetra war. According to Mr. R. Nagaswami, Director of Archaeology, the present image of Parthasarathi in the temple at Triplicane was also installed about this time.

The series of paintings are found on the ceiling of the Mahamandapam, which also contains a portrait of the Nayak chief who erected the shrine. While the murals on the outer squares have withered, those in the inner walls are fairly well-preserved. The surviving paintings portray the fight between Lakshmana and Indrajit, Hanuman fetching the Sanjeevi mountain, Rama-Ravana battle, Ravana's death, Sita's Agnipravesam, Rama's return to Ayodhya in the Pushpaka Vimanam and Rama Pattabhishekam. The coronation scene is an excellent piece of work, Mr. Nagaswami said. The story of Ramanayam has been told in a continuous narration with consummate skill and artistry.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO AUGUST 27, 1925

Indian labour in Ceylon

Replying to Mr. Venkatapathi Raju, Mr. Bhore gave the following statement regarding the daily wages of Indian labourers in Ceylon and Malaya States: In Ceylon, a man's wages in the low country was 30 to 35 cents a day, in the middle country, 35 to 40 cents, and in the up-country 40 to 45 cents; women's wages 25 to 30 cents, 30 to 35 cents and 30 to 35 cents. In Malaya States a man's wage was 30 to 35 cents, and a woman's 20 to 40 cents. Figures for Fiji were not available. The whole question of fixing a standard rate of wages for Indian labour in Ceylon and Malaya was now under the consideration of the Government of India.

From Page One

India braces for impact of 50% U.S. tariffs

The U.S. DHS notification detailed the implementation of Mr. Trump's executive order.

"To effectuate the President's Executive Order 14329 of August 6, 2025... which imposed a specified rate of duty on imports of articles that are products of India, the Secretary of Homeland Security has determined that appropriate action is needed to modify the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) as set out in the Annex to this notice," the notice said.

"The duties set out in the Annex to this document are effective with respect to products of India that are entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on August 27, 2025," it added.

The MEA did not comment on whether the additional tariffs will be on the agenda when Prime Minister Modi meets Chinese President Xi Jinping in Tianjin on August 30. Last week, the Chinese Ambassador to India had referred to the U.S. as a "bully", saying the Chinese government opposes the tariffs and "firmly stands with India" on the issue.

Worried exporters

Indian exporter bodies and trade experts, however, are projecting a substantial hit to India's exports.

According to the Federation of Indian Export Organisations president S.C. Ralhan, the development could "severely impact" India's exports to the U.S., "with approximately 55% of India's U.S.-bound shipments (worth $47-48 billion) now exposed to pricing disadvantages of 30% to 35%, rendering them uncompetitive in comparison to competitors from China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Philippines, and other Southeast and South Asian countries".

Can't judiciary review Governors' inaction: SC

The Supreme Court, in its judgment in *S.R. Bommai* case (1994), had held that the proclamation of President's Rule could be reviewed by courts to ensure it was not motivated by *mala fide* reasons.

The Presidential Reference was triggered by an April 8 judgment of a two-judge Bench of the Supreme Court in a petition filed by Tamil Nadu against its Governor, who had been sitting on Bills since 2020. The judgment had prescribed three-month deadlines for the President and Governors to decide on State Bills.

Supporting the Presidential Reference, the Centre and States like Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Haryana and the Union Territory of Puducherry argued that the judiciary cannot limit the President and Governors to deadlines.

"If there is anything wrong in the conduct of the Governor, the Parliament will take care. It should not be placed before the judiciary," Mr. Kaul argued.

"So if the Governor sits on Bills from 2020 to 2025, the court should sit powerless," the CJI asked. Appearing for Maharashtra, senior advocate Harish Salve argued that the action of giving gubernatorial assent to a Bill was the "culminating step of the legislative procedure".

"The functions of the Governor under Article 200 are indisputably legislative in character," Mr. Salve submitted.

To this the Chief Justice quoted Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's words that the Centre and States would function within their own respective domains unless there was an internal emergency.

Australia cuts Iran ties over 'anti-semitic attacks'

Shortly before the announcement, the Australian government told Iran's Ambassador to Australia Ahmad Sadeghi that he will be expelled. It also withdrew Australian diplomats posted in Iran to a third country, Mr. Albanese said.

Australian authorities have previously said they suspect that foreign actors are paying local criminals-for-hire to carry out attacks in the country.

Police have already arrested at least one suspect in the Sydney cafe fire investigation and two suspects directly accused of torching the Melbourne synagogue.

Quad talks on agenda when PM meets Ishiba

"This will also be an opportunity to launch several new initiatives in order to build greater resilience in the relationship, and to respond to emerging opportunities and challenges," Mr. Misri said, adding that the two leaders would also travel outside Tokyo together.

The Japanese Foreign Ministry has announced that Mr. Modi and Mr. Ishiba will travel to Miyagi Prefecture on August 30, where they will inspect the Tohoku Shinkansen plant in Sendai, according to Japanese media. They are expected to sign an agreement on the introduction of Japanese E-10 coaches, to be transferred to India in 2030 for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail or "Bullet Train" project.

56 ex-judges counter joint statement by 18 jurists

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A group of 56 retired judges on Tuesday countered the joint statement of 18 other former judges who had defended the Opposition's Vice-Presidential candidate B. Sudershan Reddy against Union Home Minister Amit Shah's criticism of Supreme Court's *Salwa Judum* judgment.

"A fellow retired judge has chosen, of his own volition, to contest the election for the office of the Vice President of India. By doing so, he has stepped into the political arena as a candidate supported by the Opposition. Having made that choice, he must defend his candidacy like any other contestant, in the realm of political debate. To suggest otherwise is to stifle democratic discourse and to misuse the cover of judicial independence for political convenience," the new joint statement read.

The signatories, including former Chief Justices of India Ranjan Gogoi and P. Sathasivam and retired judges A. K. Sikri and M. R. Shah, called upon "brother judges to desist from lending their names to politically motivated statements".

9 pilgrims among 13 killed as rain, landslides batter Jammu

Four killed in Doda in drowning and house collapse incidents; pilgrimage to the Vaishno Devi temple suspended; telecom services collapsed, dozens of hill roads blocked, hampering rescue

Press Trust of India
JAMMU/SRINAGAR

Rain havoc: Army and SDRF personnel conduct a rescue operation in Jammu on Tuesday. ANI

Rivers overflowed across the Jammu region on Tuesday, killing at least 13 people, including nine pilgrims struck by a landslide on the Vaishno Devi route. The pilgrimage to the Vaishno Devi shrine has been suspended. Relentless heavy rain led to flash floods and landslides in Jammu and also caused havoc in the Kashmir Valley.

Traffic was suspended on the Jammu-Srinagar and Kishtwar-Doda national highways, and dozens of hill roads were blocked or damaged by landslides or flash floods, officials said. Many trains to and from Jammu were cancelled.

Landslide hits

The winding 12-km route from Katra town to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine atop the Trikuta hill was a picture of devastation after the landslide struck at the halfway point.

At least nine people were killed when the mountainside gave way around 3 p.m., and 21 people were injured. The toll could rise, with officials saying that several people are still feared trapped under the debris.

There are two routes up to the shrine; while the yatra had been suspended on the Himkoti trek route since the morning, it continued on the old route till 1.30 p.m., when authorities decided to suspend it.

Three relief columns of the Army were swiftly mobilised in rescue and relief operations in and around Katra, the PRO Defence Jammu said.

In other rain-related incidents across Jammu on Tuesday, at least four people were reported killed in Doda district. Three had slipped and fallen into the river, while one died in a house collapse.

The India Meteorological Department held out little relief, predicting sustained moderate to heavy rain with chances of cloudbursts, flash floods, and landslides up to August 27.

Emergency meet

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah termed the situation serious. He presided over an emergency meeting and ordered district administrators to be on high alert.

Reports came in of network outages in J&K following widespread damage to optical fibres at various sites. The communication blackout impeded emergency response measures and caused panic among residents. Telecom operators said technical teams have been deployed to restore services.

All government and private schools in the Jammu division were directed to close till August 27.

Zelenskyy seeks India's contribution to ending war

Press Trust of India
KYIV

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Tuesday thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his warm greetings on Ukraine's Independence Day, and said Kyiv was counting on "India's contribution to ending the war with Russia".

Mr. Zelenskyy on Tuesday posted a letter he received from Mr. Modi on August 24, which thanked the Ukrainian president for his "kind wishes" on India's Independence Day.

Mr. Modi said India has always stood on the side of peace and remains committed to "extending all possible support for sincere efforts seeking an early and peaceful resolution of the conflict through dialogue and diplomacy".

Mr. Zelenskyy said Ukraine appreciates India's dedication to "peace and dialogue". "Now, as the entire world strives to end this war with dignity and lasting peace, we count on India's contribution," he said. "Every decision that strengthens diplomacy leads to better security not only in Europe, but also in the Indo-Pacific and beyond," he added.

Rajnath commissions Navy frigates, says self-reliance a 'ground reality'

V. Kamalakara Rao
VISAKHAPATNAM

Rajnath Singh at Eastern Naval Command base in Visakhapatnam during commissioning of two stealth frigates. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh commissioned two of the Indian Navy's advanced Project 17A multi-mission stealth frigates, *INS Udaygiri* and *INS Himgiri*, at the Eastern Naval Command base here on Tuesday.

Addressing a gathering, he said, "This is a historic moment for us and the success achieved demonstrates the success of the 'Make in India' and 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' initiatives of the Government of India."

The Minister said that the ships were "equipped with next-gen weapons and systems" and would "enhance the Navy's ability to safeguard national interests across full spectrum of maritime missions". He said the frigates would reinforce the Navy's role as the first responder and preferred security partner in the Indian Ocean Region.

Mr. Singh said self-reliance was "no longer a mere slogan" and was becoming a "ground reality". "Armed forces are being strengthened under a futuristic vision. India does not believe in aggressive expansionism, but we will not bow before those who mean to harm us," he said.

He expressed confidence that the warships, built with 75% indigenous components, would strengthen the security system, safeguard maritime interests and assist in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions.

"This is the first time that two major surface combatant ships from two prestigious shipyards in India are being commissioned simultaneously, which underlines India's rapid naval modernisation and its ability to deliver advanced warships from multiple shipyards, thus showcasing India's power to the maritime world," Mr. Singh said.

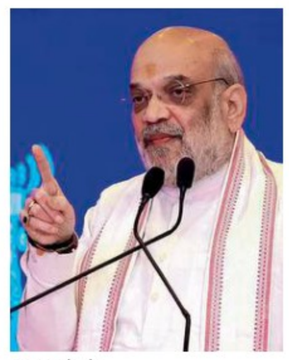
Both ships are products of an industrial ecosystem spanning more than 200 MSMEs, supporting approximately 4,000 direct and more than 10,000 indirect jobs. The two frigates, designed in-house by the Navy's Warship Design Bureau, will join the Eastern Fleet.

Udaygiri and *Himgiri* are follow-on ships of the Project 17 (Shivalik) class frigates. Both incorporate significant improvements in design, stealth, weapon, and sensor systems.

The ships feature modern combined diesel or gas propulsion plants, state-of-the-art Integrated Platform Management System and a suite of advanced weapons and sensors developed by Indian manufacturers.

Shah warns about demographic changes in areas along border

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI



Amit Shah

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Tuesday that demographic changes in border areas were part of a "deliberate design" and asked Chief Secretaries of States and chiefs of forces that guard the borders to pay "attention to this issue".

Giving the example of Gujarat, he urged the Collectors of border districts to take action to remove "illegal religious encroachments" within 30 kilometres of the border.

'Matter of concern'

The Minister, who addressed the inaugural session of the two-day Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP) workshop in Delhi, said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his Independence Day speech, had flagged demographic change as a "matter of concern".

The Home Minister said that Collectors of districts included in the VVP should address the issue of demographic change with seriousness, adding that such changes in border areas directly impacted the security of the country and its borders, according to a statement from the Home Ministry.

He said that it should not be assumed that demographic changes were happening due to geographical conditions; rather, it was a part of a "deliberate design", including the illegal religious encroachments in border areas. He said that "Gujarat has done a commendable work in this regard, having cleared numerous encroachments along both maritime and land borders", the statement said.

Mr. Shah said that the VVP was based on three key points: preventing migration from border villages, ensuring that every resident of border villages receives cent percent benefits of Central and State government schemes, and developing the villages under VVP into strong tools to strengthen border and national security.

'To improve lives'

Mr. Shah said that when the Prime Minister presented the idea of the VVP, it was decided that it would be implemented in a phased manner.

"Not only would every border village be equipped with all facilities, but every citizen living in these border villages would be provided with all the schemes of the Government of India and State governments to improve the lives of the people living there," the Minister said.

Air Chief Singh warns against hasty theaterisation

Press Trust of India
MHOW

Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh on Tuesday cautioned against going ahead with the theaterisation plan in a hurry and proposed the setting up of a joint planning and coordination centre in Delhi comprising top military brass to ensure tri-Services synergy. Mr. Singh, referring to proposed theatre commands, said creating a new structure while disrupting everything was not a very good idea at this point of time.

The hugely significant remarks by the Air Chief Marshal came three-and-a-half months after India carried out Operation Sindoor that reflected various elements of synergy among the three Services.

SC judge Sundresh recuses from hearing bail plea filed by activist Surendra Gadling

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The case was next listed on August 26, when Justice M.M. Sundresh recused himself.

Supreme Court judge Justice M.M. Sundresh on Tuesday recused himself from hearing a bail petition filed by advocate and activist Surendra Gadling in connection with the 2016 Surjagarh iron ore mine arson case.

The petition was originally listed before a Bench of Justices Sundresh and N. Kotiswar Singh. The Supreme Court website later reflected that the matter would not be placed before Justice Sundresh.

Mr. Gadling has been incarcerated for over six-and-a-half years in the Elgar Parishad-Maoist links case. The present bail plea stems from a separate prosecution concerning the 2016 Surjagarh arson incident, in which several vehicles ferrying iron ore from the Gadchiroli mines in Maharashtra were allegedly set ablaze by individuals associated with the banned Communist Party of India (Maoist). The prosecution has alleged that he supplied confidential information to Maoist insurgents and sought to mobilise local residents against mining operations.

He has been lodged in Taloja prison since June 2018 following his arrest in the Elgar Parishad case, and was subsequently arrested in February 2019 in the Gadchiroli arson case. On January 31, 2023, the Nagpur Bench of the Bombay High Court denied him bail. He later approached the Supreme Court, and on October 10, 2023, a Bench of Justices Aniruddha Bose and Bela M. Trivedi issued notice on his petition. Since then, the bail proceedings have witnessed repeated adjournments.

The matter appeared in the cause list on August 11, 2025, but was not heard. It was next listed on August 26, when Justice Sundresh recused himself.

APPEAL

Jeshwin, is 6 years old suffering from "B Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia" and advised to undergo Chemotherapy and Radiation at **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre,** Madurai. The total expenditure is **Rs. 8,00,000/-**. He is from a very poor family and cannot afford this huge cost. Please help him to undergo the treatment. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged**. The donations sent through Ch/D.D/M.O/NEFT Transfer & GOOGLE PAY (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/c No. 60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT. Your e-mail ID is requested.

All correspondence is done through **WWS**, Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No. GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No. 29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai - 600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 31523781 / 7338978027.**
E-mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com
Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org.

WWS

Vote theft took place in 2014 Lok Sabha election too: Rahul

The Congress leader says vote theft started in Gujarat and came to the national level in 2014; joining him in 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' in Bihar, Priyanka says BJP, which has lost trust of people, is hatching conspiracies to steal votes across the country

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday alleged that stealing of votes started from the Gujarat Assembly election in 2012 and it continued at the national level in the 2014 Lok Sabha election when Narendra Modi became the Prime Minister for the first time.

Mr. Gandhi said that a few years ago, Union Home Minister Amit Shah gave a statement, not once but many times, that the BJP government would remain in power for 40-50 years.

"I was thinking how can this person say this, how does he know that the BJP government will run for 40-50 years. What happens in the hearts of the public only they know. It was a strange statement. Now the truth has come out in front of the whole country. He can say this because they steal votes," Mr. Gandhi said during the "Voter Adhikar Yatra" in Madhubani in Bihar.

Strong statement: Congress leaders Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, A. Revanth Reddy and Rahul Gandhi during the 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' in Supaul in Bihar on Tuesday. ANI

He was accompanied by Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashiwi Yadav, Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP) chief Mukesh Sahani and Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) Liberation [CPI (ML)] general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya.

He further said, "The vote theft has been happening for years and it started in Gujarat first, then came to the national level in 2014, after that these people decide which party wins in which State. The Prime Minister decides who will become the Election Commissioner."

Mr. Gandhi said not a single BJP leader made a statement at press conferences regarding vote theft. "Modi*ji* did not say a word; Amit Shah did not say a word. When caught, the thief goes completely silent," he said.

The Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha was joined by his sister and Lok Sabha member Priyanka Gandhi Vadra in the third leg of the yatra which resumed from Supaul in Bihar. Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy also joined the Yatra.

'Failed on every front'

Attacking the Bharatiya Janata Party, Ms. Vadra posted a message on X saying, "The BJP, which has lost the trust of the people, is hatching conspiracies to steal votes across the country. In Bihar, the BJP-JD(U) government, which has failed on every front including inflation, unemployment, migration, and economic crisis, wants to remain in power by stealing the votes of people."

Joining the Yatra in Bihar for the first time, she further said, "The voting rights of millions of poor and deprived citizens are being snatched away. The Constitution has given every Indian the right to vote. No power can snatch this right. We will not allow even a single vote of the poor people to be stolen."

Bill to remove Ministers facing charges will test govt.'s strength in House

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

More than a week after the Bill was referred to a Joint Committee of Parliament, the panel has not yet been constituted. PTI

The 130th Constitution Amendment Bill, which seeks the removal of the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers and Ministers of the Union and State governments if they face serious criminal charges, has thrown up an unexpected challenge for the government.

More than a week since the draft law was referred to a Parliamentary Joint Committee, the panel has not been formed amid boycott calls from three Opposition parties – the Samajwadi Party (SP), Trinamool Congress, and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

The Congress, according to sources, is also strongly considering following suit.

This apart from the fact that a Constitution amendment requires a higher threshold of support.

On August 20, the draft law was referred to Parliament's Joint Committee, with the deadline to submit its report by the first week of the Winter Session of Parliament. The Trinamool was the first to declare its decision to boycott the panel, quickly followed by the SP and the AAP. The Congress is yet to make a decision.

Article 368 of the Constitution, which details the power of Parliament to amend the Constitution and the procedure thereof, states that the Bill has to be passed in each House "by a majority of the total membership of that House".

It additionally requires "by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting". Thus, for the Bill to pass the first roadblock in the Lok Sabha, it will need the support of at least 362 members, if all the members of the Lower House are present and voting.

Falling short

The Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has 293 members, falling short of the required cut-off. The INDIA (Indian National Democratic, Inclusive Alliance) bloc has 236 members in the Lok Sabha. There are also four Independent MPs, and nine others.

The BJP did not consult or inform its eight allies before bringing in the Bill, sources said. Although all the allies have extended support, it is not unqualified. Both the Janata Dal-United (JD-U) and the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) want adequate guardrails in the Bill.

These legislation was in the right direction, but there were certain "grey areas" which needed to be addressed, TDP's parliamentary party leader Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu said, while expressing the reservation that the law should not be misused.

The law should be implemented without any bias, JD(U)'s national spokesperson K.C. Tyagi said.

Judge dissents from recommendation to elevate Pancholi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Justice Nagarathna raises questions about transfer of the judge from Gujarat to Patna High Court

A Supreme Court Collegium member, Justice B.V. Nagarathna, has dissented from a recommendation to elevate Patna High Court Chief Justice Vipul Manubhai Pancholi as a SC judge.

A collegium resolution, published on Monday, had disclosed its recommendation of elevation of Bombay High Court Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice Pancholi to the top court. The resolution was bare with no details about the quorum and who proposed the two names. It did not attach the dissent note of Justice Nagarathna.

Justice Nagarathna had intervened earlier too against the elevation of Justice Pancholi to the Supreme Court on the ground of his seniority. The lone woman judge in the Supreme Court had at the time pointed out that there were several High Court judges senior to Justice Pancholi. One of them, Justice Nagarathna had noted, was Justice N.V. Anjaria, whose parent High Court was also Gujarat. Justice Anjaria was subsequently appointed to the Supreme Court in May.

Dissent note

Justice Nagarathna, this time, had raised questions about the transfer of Justice Pancholi from Gujarat to Patna High Court. The judge, it is learnt, had asked for her dissent note to be published along with the August 25 Collegium resolution. However, the note was not published.

Justice Pancholi, if appointed now, would be in line for the Chief Justiceship of India in 2031 for a tenure of well over a year.

NCLAT member claims he was approached by judge for favour, recuses himself

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

In a rare incident, a judicial member of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) has alleged being "approached by one of the most revered members of the higher judiciary", seeking an order in favour of a party. The member has recused himself from hearing the matter.

The Chennai-based Bench of the appellate tribunal has recorded the incident in a two-paragraph order passed on August 13.

Justice Sharad Kumar Sharma, the judicial member of the NCLAT, has recused himself from hearing the matter.

"We are anguished to observe that one of us, Member (Judicial), has been approached by one of the most revered members of the higher judiciary of this country for seeking an order in favour of a particular party. Hence, I recuse to hear the matter," the NCLAT Bench said in the order.

> We are anguished to observe, that one of us... has been approached by one of the most revered members of the higher judiciary... for seeking an order in favour of a particular party
> **NCLAT BENCH**

It requested that the matter be placed "before the Hon'ble chairperson for nomination of an appropriate Bench" for hearing.

The two-member Bench comprised Justice Sharma and Technical Member Jatindranath Swain. The Bench was hearing an appeal filed by A.S. Reddy, suspended director of Hyderabad-based KLSR Infratech, which is facing corporate insolvency resolution process under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).

The judgment in the matter was reserved by the insolvency appellate tribunal on June 18 after completion of hearing. It also granted seven days' time to both parties to file written submissions, if any. The matter was listed for orders on August 13 before the two-member Chennai Bench.

When the matter was called, Justice Sharma recused from the matter and mentioned the reason in a two-para order passed on that day.

The process was initiated by the Hyderabad Bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) against KLSR Infratech over a plea filed by its creditor on July 14, 2023.

Everyone in Akhand Bharat is a Hindu: RSS chief at event

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

The people of 'Akhand Bharat' have had the same DNA for over 40,000 years and "everyone in Akhand Bharat is a Hindu", Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat said on Tuesday, emphasising that inclusivity is part of Indian culture.

Addressing a gathering, including legislators, former judges and bureaucrats, and diplomats from China, the U.S., and Russia, among others, Mr. Bhagwat said that some people feel proud to call themselves Hindus, some do not wish to acknowledge it, and others do not know that they are Hindus. He was speaking at the inaugural day of a three-day lecture series organised as part of the Sangh's centenary celebrations.

"Some feel comfortable in calling themselves as Hindu, some don't. Some say that they are not Hindus but Hindavi, while others say they are Bharatiya. We are okay with everything as the fact remains that everyone in Akhand Bharat is a Hindu. The content [or meaning] of all these words is the same and this content is not geographical, but has the same culture, values, and love for the nation," he said.

Indians, whether they are Hindus, Muslims, or Buddhists, will not fight among themselves, as inclusivity is inherent in Indian culture, he said.

When will Bills on nuclear energy be tabled: Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday raised questions on the Centre's proposal to allow private firms to set up nuclear power plants by amending existing laws.

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh, in a post on X, said Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, while presenting the Union Budget, had made promises to give a boost to nuclear energy by amending the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010, and the Atomic Energy Act, 1962, to allow private companies into the nuclear power generation sector.

He asked if they will be introduced in the Winter Session of Parliament.

GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN
RAJASTHAN STATE HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY, JAIPUR
Notice Inviting Bid (28/2025-26)
Bids for collection of user fee on "Mangliyawas-Padukalan (Km 24+000 to 87+000) section of SH-102, Beawar-Pisangan (Km 0+000 to 35+000) & Govindgarh-Tehla (Km 50+000 to 63+000) section of SH-59 and Tehla-Alniyawas (Km 0+000 to 9+000) section of SH- 104" in the State of Rajasthan are invited from interested bidders upto 11:30 AM on 28.08.2025. Other particulars of bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, htpp://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state; and department website. The estimated value of Remittance for one year is **Rs 2,47,66,063/-**
UBN: PWD 2526SLOB 10298
(A.K.Jain)
DIPR/C/11981/2025 **Member (C&PPP)**

OFFICE OF THE, MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT,
Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Hospital and
MEMBER SECRETARY
Rajasthan Medicare Relief Society,
Gangori Bazar, Jaipur, Rajasthan
File no. E-NIT-06/2025-26/STORE/PDDUH/409 Date:13-08-2025
NIB No. SMS2526A0150
Notice Inviting Bid
Bid for Generic Drug & Medicines Rate Contract at Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Hospital, Jaipur are invited from interested bidders as per schedule in NIT Notice. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in & https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) of the state.
UBN No-
1- SMS2526GLRC00256
MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT,
Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Hospital and
MEMBER SECRETARY
Rajasthan Medicare Relief Society,Gangori Bazar, Jaipur, Rajasthan
DIPR/C/11923/2025

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER WATER RESOURCES ZONE BANSWARA
No.:- ACE/Acc/Banswara.2025-26/1472 Date:-13/08/25
INVITATION FOR BIDS
E-NIT No 03/2025-26

S. No.	Name of Work	Approximate Value (in Lacs)	UBN No.
1.	Construction of Likhniya Mahadev anicut on Mandoor River Village Likhniya GP Lodiya Tehsil Dhariyawad District Pratapgarh UBN No. WRD2526WSOB00862	435.49	WRD2526W-SOB00862

Above cited works bids are invited from interested bidders upto 06:00 Pm on 10.09.2025. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of state, and www.water.rajasthan.gov.in/WRD departmental website.
Additional Chief Engineer
DIPR/C/11952/2025 **Water Resources Zone Banswara**

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
RVPN invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from eligible and experienced parties/prospective bidders for monetization and operationalization of two RVPN-owned transformer repair workshops at Jodhpur & Ratangarh on the basis of "As is Where is basis". Each workshop comprises industrial sheds equipped with Overhead Travelling (OHT) cranes, originally built for the repair and maintenance of high-voltage transformers and other electrical equipment. At present, these facilities are lying unutilised, and RVPN intends to monetize them by engaging competent parties to make them operational. The prospective bidders are invited for a discussion/interactive session on 08.09.2025 at 02.30 PM in the Conference Hall, Vidhyut Bhawan, Janpath, Jaipur. For details Please visit **https://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rrvpn.**
Superintending Engineer
Raj.Samwad/C/25/8729 RRVPN/TR-7090/2025 **(Contracts-II), Jaipur**

कार्यालय मुख्य अभियन्ता जल संसाधन (उत्तर) हनुमानगढ़
नजदीक तिलक सर्किल, हनुमानगढ़ जक्शन–335512
फोन नं. 01552–260607 ई–मेलआईडी–cewrdhmh@gmail.com
Notice Inviting Bid
(NIB Code WRN2526A0071)
Bid for 01 No of Work estimated cost Rs 3097.63 lacs involving **Renovation and Modernization of Longwala distributary (LGW) Km 0.000 to 6.096, Kharliya Minor Km 0.000 to 22.800 & Lakhasar Minor Km 0.000 to 18.135 Of Bhakra Canal System District Hanumangarh** is invited from prospective bidders up to 03.09.2025 time 6.00 PM. Other particulars of the bids may be visited on the procurement portal http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, of the state and www.water.rajasthan.gov.in departmental website.
UBN No.- WRN2526WLOB00227
(Pradeep Rustagi), Chief Engineer
DIPR/C/11932/2025 **Water Resources(North), Hanumangarh**

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS-TIRUPATI
Office of the Chief Engineer **TENDER NOTICE**
ADV No.28/D3/CE/TTD/2025-26 & NIT No.25 /SE-III /TTD/ 2025 -26 dt:25-08- 2025
NAME OF WORK:1) Re-Construction of Sri Veerabhadra Swamy Temple with Raja Gopuram and Stone Prakaram (Sub - temple of Sri KVS Temple) at Narayanavanam, Tirupati District. **Amount Rs.690.00 Lakhs**, Time for Completion: 18 months.
NOTE: For full details log on to the Website **https://www.tirumala.org.**
TTD-40021/10/2025-PRO SEC (Adv.No.190) Date:26-08-2025 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
Materials Management Department
Auction Programme October' 25
Notice No: 10/2025
E-Auction will be conducted for disposal of Ferrous scrap, Non-Ferrous scrap, other Misc scrap, condemned Wagon, Coaches & Locos, Scrap Rails and other Permanent Way scrap material.

Sl. No.	E-Auction Conducted By	Date of auction for the month of for Material for auction October' 25			Material for auction
1	GSD/PER	09/10/25	22/10/25	30/10/25	The details of items to be sold in e-auction will be available in catalogue **www.ireps.gov.in** website
2	CSSD/GOC	10/10/25	22/10/25	30/10/25	
3	SSD/PTJ	06/10/25	14/10/25	22/10/25	
4	MAS Division	10/10/25	23/10/25	31/10/25	
5	SA Division	06/10/25	14/10/25	23/10/25	
6	TVC Division	07/10/25	15/10/25	24/10/25	
7	PGT Division	08/10/25	16/10/25	27/10/25	
8	TPJ Division	03/10/25	10/10/25	23/10/25	
9	MDU Division	07/10/25	15/10/25	24/10/25	

Total no. of auction for October' 25 - 27 Nos.
For detailed terms and conditions and downloading of catalogue please visit our web-site **http://www.ireps.gov.in->E-Auction->Sale->Live Auctions.**
Principal Chief Materials Manager

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग वृत राजसमन्द
क्रमांक : 2211 दिनांक : 12/08/2025
निविदा संशोधन सूचना-4
(निविदा सूचना संख्या 02/2025-26)
इस कार्यालय द्वारा जारी निविदा सूचना संख्या- 02/2025-26 दिनांक 20.05.2025 एवं निविदा संशोधन-3 में वर्णित क्र.सं. 1 से 9 तक के कार्यों में निम्नानुसार संशोधन किया जाता है:-

क्र. सं.	विवरण	पूर्व में वर्णित दिनांक	संशोधित दिनांक
1	ऑनलाईन निविदा आवेदन डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की अन्तिम तारीख (क्र.सं. 1 से 9 तक के कार्य)	22.05.2025 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से दिनांक 12.08.2025 को सायं 6.00 बजे तक	22.05.2025 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से दिनांक 08.09.2025 को सायं 6.00 बजे तक
2	Bid Security को Egras Challan रूप में जमा कराने की स्थिति में। (क्र.सं. 1 से 9 तक के कार्य)	22.05.2025 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से दिनांक 12.08.2025 को सायं 6.00 बजे तक	22.05.2025 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से दिनांक 08.09.2025 को सायं 6.00 बजे तक
3	ऑनलाईन निविदा खोलने की दिनांक। (क्र.सं. 1 से 9 तक के कार्य)	दिनांक 13.08.2025 प्रातः 11.00 बजे	दिनांक 09.09.2025 प्रातः 11.00 बजे

निविदा में वर्णित अन्य सभी शर्तें यथावत रहेगी।
UBN:- PWD2526WSOB02039,PWD2526WSOB02040,PWD2526WSOB02041, PWD2526WSOB02044,PWD2526WSOB02045,PWD2526WSOB02046, PWD2526WSOB02048,PWD2526WSOB02049,PWD2526WSOB02051
अधीक्षण अभियंता
DIPR/C/11858/2025 **सा.नि.वि. वृत राजसमन्द**

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
e-TENDER CALL NOTICE
No. EM/PED-22/2025
No.EM/PED/TECH-03/2025/689 Date: 19/08/2025
Name of the work: Management of Power Distribution System of Paradip Port Authority. Estimated Cost: **Rs.15,33,15,228/-** only excluding GST. Last date & time of submission of bid: **dt.24/09/2025 up to 18:00 Hrs.** Refer our website for details https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.
Sd/- Executive Engineer (E), PED-II
Paradip Port Authority
PPA/PR/33/2025-26 dtd.25.08.2025

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
POLICE DEPARTMENT
RC.No.Tr.Imp.2(1)/258/15739/2023, **TENDER NOTICE** Dated : 22.08.2025
PROCUREMENT OF FOLLOWING ROAD SAFETY ITEMS

S. No	Name of Equipment to be procured	Tender Value in Rs.	EMD Amount in Rs. (1% on Tender Value)	Closing Date and Time for the receipt of Tender Document	Tender Opening Date and Time
1.	ANPR Cameras for Wrong Side detection	3,74,00,000	3,74,000/-	16.09.2025 up to 12.00 hrs.	18.09.2025 up to 15.00 hrs.

Note : 1. The Tender Document is available in the following website, the commercial bid and technical bid and the updated tender document should be submitted in the website. **www.tntenders.gov.in.** All the entire process of tender will be at the above website as e tender. The Bidder is also submitted in physical form (in original document as mentioned in RFP) on or before the Bid Due Date and Time as mentioned above. 2. The Department/Tender Committee reserves the right to reject all or part or any of the Tenders without assigning any reasons whatsoever and the Department/Tender Committee is not bound necessarily to accept the lowest tender. 3. The above dates are final and no further extension shall be given.
Addl. Commissioner of Police,
DIPR/ 4615 /TENDER/2025 **Traffic, Chennai.**

INBRIEF

Kharge must sack Jitu Patwari for anti-women remarks: BJP

Madhya Pradesh Congress president Jitu Patwari has triggered a political controversy by claiming that women in the State consume more alcohol and drugs than anywhere else in the country. The BJP on Tuesday criticised the Opposition party in the State for its "narrow mentality", and demanded that Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge apologise and remove Mr. Patwari from the post. BJP national spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi said it was an example of the "petty and disgusting anti-women mentality" of the Congress. Mr. Patwari, however, refused to apologise for his remarks and said that it was his responsibility to raise public issues.

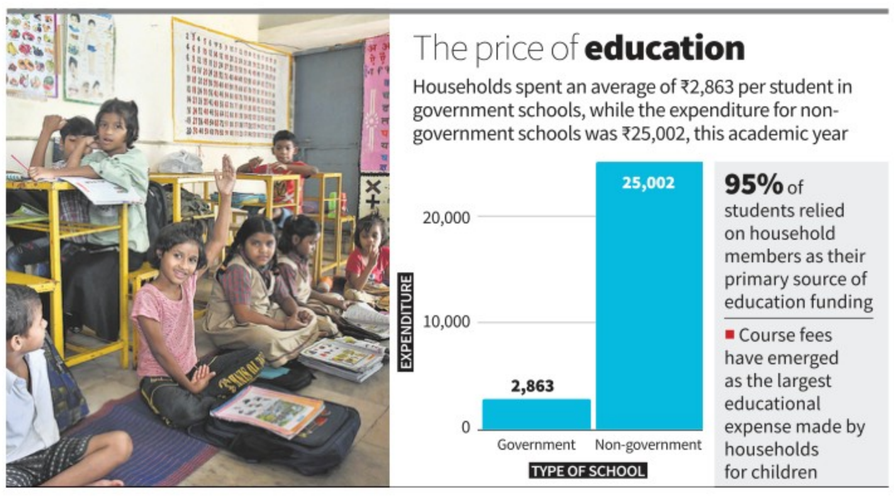
Centre issues guidelines for transfusion of animal blood

The Union Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has recently issued guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures for blood transfusion and blood banks for animals. Establishment of State-regulated veterinary blood banks with biosafety standards, mandatory blood typing and cross-matching to prevent incompatibility are the key highlights of the guidelines. It introduces a National Veterinary Blood Bank Network with digital registries and real-time inventory. It also has donor eligibility norms and an ethical framework emphasising voluntary, donations and informed consent.

Govt. schools account for 55.9% of total enrolments, says survey

66% of students are in public institutions in rural areas as against 30.1% in urban; private unaided schools account for 31.9% of enrolment; nearly a third of all students get private coaching, says study undertaken as part of National Sample Survey

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI


The price of education
Households spent an average of ₹2,863 per student in government schools, while the expenditure for non-government schools was ₹25,002, this academic year
EXPENDITURE
20,000
10,000
0
2,863
25,002
Government
Non-government
TYPE OF SCHOOL
95% of students relied on household members as their primary source of education funding
Course fees have emerged as the largest educational expense made by households for children

Students enrolled in private or non-government schools across India end up paying nearly nine times more in school fees than those enrolled in government schools.

A third of all students across education Boards opt for private coaching in addition to classes in school, data collected by the Comprehensive Modular Survey (Education) for April-June 2025 as part of the 80th round of the National Sample Survey (NSS) revealed.

The average per-student expenditure made by households on school education during the current academic year (2025-26) in government schools is estimated at ₹2,863, while it was significantly higher at ₹25,002 in non-government schools.

Nearly a third of all students (27%) were taking or had taken private coaching during the current academic year. This trend was more common in urban areas (30.7%) than in rural areas (25.5%).

The data focused specifically on household expenditure for currently enrolled students in school education. Data were collected from 52,085 households and 57,742 students across India through computer-assisted personal interviews.

The survey says government schools play a key role in providing education across India, accounting for 55.9% of total enrolments.

It is higher in rural areas, where two-thirds (66%) of students are enrolled as against 30.1% in urban areas. Private unaided (recognised) schools account for 31.9% of enrolment nationwide.

Education expenses

Among the students who paid for school education, 95% reported that the first major source of their funding was from other household members. This trend is consistent across both rural (95.3%) and urban (94.4%) areas.

On the other hand, 1.2% of the students reported that government scholarships were their first major source of funding for school education.

Course fees have emerged as the largest education expense made by households for children's education.

Across all types of schools at the all-India level, the highest average expenditure per student during the current academic year was on course fees – ₹7,111 – followed by textbooks and stationery – ₹2,002.

Rural-urban differences

Urban households pay significantly more for education and related expenses across all categories.

Notably, the average expenditure on course fees in urban areas is estimated at ₹15,143, whereas it is ₹3,979 in rural areas.

"This trend of higher expenditure in urban areas is evident for other types of education-related expenses such as transportation, uniforms, and textbooks," the survey states.

Only 26.7% of students enrolled in government schools reported paying course fees, in contrast to 95.7% of students in non-government schools. Among different types of non-government schools, 98% students reported paying course fees in private unaided schools in urban areas. In rural areas, 25.3% of students reported paying course fees in government schools.

The primary objective of the survey was to generate national-level estimates of average expenditure on school education and private coaching during the current academic year, a press statement released by the Ministry of Statistics said.

Real money gaming firms unlikely to contest ban

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Two large real money gaming (RMG) firms, Dream11 and Gameskraft, said on Tuesday that they would not challenge the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025, which prohibits "online money gaming". The announcement comes as the industry, which has offered card games and fantasy sports apps where users could risk money in hopes of winning, moves to wind up its operations in compliance with the law.

"As a responsible and law-abiding corporate entity, Gameskraft has no intention of pursuing any legal challenge to the legislation," the firm said in a statement. "We fully respect the legislative process and remain committed to operating within the framework of the law."

Dream11 parent firm Dream Sports' co-founder Harsh Jain said that the firm would not challenge the law. "I don't want to live in the past," Mr. Jain was quoted as saying by a website. "We want to focus entirely on the future and not fight with the government on something that they don't want."

Adi Karmayogi initiative to put tribal 'change leaders' through their paces at village level

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

Ground work: The first phase involves holding training sessions down to the village level across 324 districts. X/@TRIBALAFFAIRSIN

Lighting candles, role-play, cognitive group tasks, and "knot-tying" and "fish-bowl" exercises – at the core of efforts to create a "cadre" of 20 lakh "change leaders" for tribal villages under the Adi Karmayogi initiative of the Tribal Affairs Ministry is a training programme that conducts such activities for State, district, and block officials.

The programme will be extended to the village level in the coming months.

Government officials told *The Hindu* that the idea was to adopt a "participatory" approach to problem-solving.

This involves driving home messages such as "the solution comes from within", "not dwelling on problems", "initiating action", and "creating opportunity from challenges", according to the Ministry's concept note for the initiative, which is being run under the Dharti Aba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyaan programme for last-mile scheme delivery.

The Adi Karmayogi initiative was conceived of earlier this year after a two-day national workshop, where, at a brainstorming session, it was concluded that the reason tribal areas continued to face backwardness was not a lack of schemes for them but a "lack of motivation" in those implementing them.

'Village vision'

The government, through the training activities mentioned above, intends to create 240 State-level master trainers, 2,750 district-level trainers, and over 15,000 block-level trainers, who will be responsible for taking the training down to 20 lakh village-level officials, volunteers, and community leaders.

Apart from this, the programme intends to help residents to draw up their own "Village Vision" documents for 2030 for each of the one lakh target villages across over 550 districts, which are to be depicted as "public murals" and will become "aspirational blueprints" for the State machinery to follow.

Under the programme, the Ministry said it will also set up one lakh Adi Seva Kendras – meant to act as a single-point interface for villagers trying to access the gamut of welfare schemes meant for them so that 100% saturation can be achieved.

The first phase of the initiative involves holding these training sessions at the village level across 324 districts. Currently, regional training sessions are conducted where State-level master trainers are trained.

Most of the State-level sessions are also conducted for training district-level trainers, following which block-level and village-level training will take place, according to officials. Once the sessions reach the village level, each session will have 15 volunteers to participate in them.

Prescribed activities

At these training sessions, the "prescribed" activities include a "lighting the candle" exercise to encourage participants not to "curse darkness" but "bring the light".

A "fish bowl exercise" asks participants to imagine themselves as fish in a bowl and get to know each other.

The "village scenario role play" exercise involves imagining a village of animal rearers trying to solve water scarcity after the state machinery fails to act and the Deputy Commissioner's staff is rushed to find a solution.

Centre finalises National Designated Authority to kick-start carbon markets

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

The authority is a mandatory body to be set up under the provisions of 2015 Paris Agreement

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has announced a National Designated Authority (NDA), a mandatory requirement under the provisions of the 2015 Paris Agreement, to enable a carbon emissions trading regime.

Within the Paris Agreement, a section called Article 6 defines the contours under which such an emissions trading regime or a market can take shape. A long-standing bone of contention among countries, Article 6 was finally passed at the 29th edition of the climate COP in Baku, Azerbaijan in November 2024.

The creation of an NDA is a mandatory requirement under Article 6.

A notification from the Environment Ministry on Friday lays out the composition of the NDA, which is a 21-member committee headed by the Secretary of the Environment Ministry. Representatives include officials from the Ministries of External Affairs, Steel, and Renewable Energy, and NITI Aayog.

The NDA's responsibilities include recommending to the Union government a list of activities that can be considered for the trading of emission reduction units from projects under Article 6, modifying them from time to time in line with national sustainable goals, country-specific criteria and other national priorities; receive projects or activities for evaluation, approval and authorisation; and authorise the use of emission reduction units from projects for use towards achievement of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC).

The NDC refers to commitments by countries to reduce emissions by diverting their energy consumption towards renewable energy sources and taking action to reduce carbon concentrations in the atmosphere.

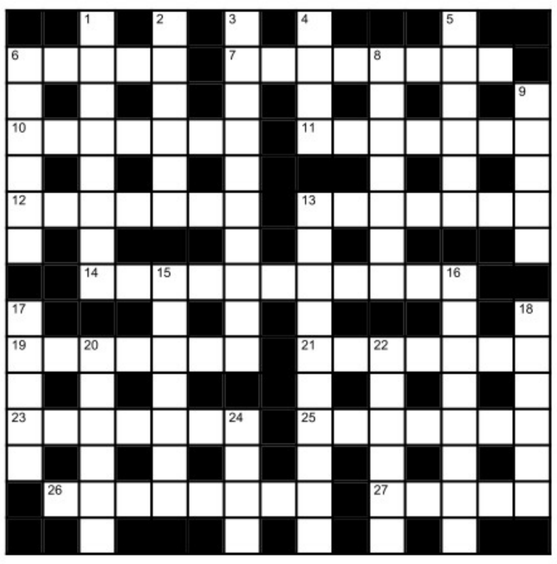
India's NDC commits to reducing its GDP's emission intensity by 45% by 2030 from 2005 levels, achieving 50% electric power capacity from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030, and creating an additional carbon sink equivalent to 2.5-3 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide by 2030 through afforestation.

TH CROSSWORD + 14574

(set by Bruno)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

6 Prosperous as salary is supplemented with fifty million (5)
7 Gangster's son bottles gangster's offensive poison (8)
10 Lane near river to wash pot while sailing's so ignored (7)
11 Setter with millions around globe with tax agency chasing.. that could be a set of stories (7)
12 Old queen of England, some say, eventually moved to ancient city (7)
13 Major heart transplant's going up (7)
14 Failing defence overcome by bully.. Champion finally folding (7,4)
19 Wanting $1000, joker ran circles regularly for glory (7)
21 Go-getter mounted horse with spur (7)
23 Lying around, Polish queen's wearing India's version of 5D (7)
25 Survive in melting ice with material (7)
26 Full-scale files arranged by Lizzie evenly (4-4)
27 Mum left racks with brownies, perhaps (5)

Down

1 Technique to shoot bottoms in extremely sexy state (4,4)
2 Current producer of dairy goes on vacation to emerging middle eastern country (6)
3 Rich girl's followed by knight in story - kind and protective (10)
4 North Korean leader's recycling one kind of milk (4)
5 Clothing item from orient stolen from motorcycle in India (6)
6 Chemical from common drug's like heroin (6)
8 Problem of left bum's solved by a run (7)
9 Consumption of America over time... (5)
13 ...found to be in lower intensity electronic device (5,5)
15 Animal dies tripping over piece of iron with rust (7)
16 Cynical evangelist's sadly - often lost & isolated (8)
17 Bird good at brewing beer (5)
18 Protective equipment giving support to professionals not accepted (6)
20 Dork at home jacket (6)
22 One lost time in business for religious orders (6)
24 Electronic assistant elevated to a Goddess (4)

SUDOKU

	4			1	8		6	
9				7			8	
						4		
	9	1		8		3		5
5		2		9		7	1	
		3						
	5			4				8
	1		7	2			9	

No.SS6624 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

M	I	N	U	T	E		A	C	A	D	E	M	I	C
I		O		A			H		R		A		R
S	T	R	O	L	L		P	I	M	I	E	N	T	O
S		M		I			N		V		A		S
	F	A	L	S	E	P	R	E	T	E	N	C	E	S
		L		M		A		S		R		L		W
C	A	S	U	A	L	T	I	E	S		L	E	G	O
L				N		E		W		L				R
A	C	H	E		U	N	B	A	L	A	N	C	E	D
S		A		T		T		L		N		A		
S	O	U	T	H	E	R	N	L	I	G	H	T	S	
R		N		R		I			U		S		H	
O	U	T	W	E	I	G	H		G	A	L	E	N	A
O		E		A		H			G		Y		R	
M	E	D	I	T	A	T	E		S	E	R	E	N	E

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	1	2	5	6	8	4	9	7
5	7	9	3	2	4	1	6	8
6	8	4	7	9	1	5	2	3
1	9	3	8	5	6	7	4	2
7	4	6	2	3	9	8	5	1
8	2	5	4	1	7	6	3	9
2	6	8	1	4	3	9	7	5
9	5	1	6	7	2	3	8	4
4	3	7	9	8	5	2	1	6

FAITH

Karumbayiram Pillaiyar

Known as Vinayaka, Ganesa and Pillaiyar, the son of Siva and Parvati is the one God everyone prays to before undertaking any activity. Pillaiyar is not merely a remover of hurdles in one's endeavour, but He is also an upholder of principles of dharma and turns devotees towards the right path. Kumbakonam's Karumbayiram Pillaiyar's sport is a great example of this, said P. Swaminathan.

The Karumbayiram temple in Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu, is an ancient one. Legend has it that the idol was installed by Varaha Perumal, north of the Kumbeswaran temple, after creating a sacred tank. He prayed to the idol for the successful achievement of His dharmic quest and the temple came to be known as Varaha Pillaiyar. Once, a sugarcane merchant was driving his heavily-laden cart on a hot day to the market and stopped to refresh himself in the tank near the Pillaiyar temple. When he returned to his cart, a small boy with a fat belly was waiting there. He asked the merchant for one sugarcane, but the merchant, a miser, he told the boy, "Oh, this sugarcane will be salty, it will not be nice to taste," and drove off in his cart.

The merchant reached the wholesale market. During the sampling, his sugarcanes were rejected as being salty. The merchant retraced his steps home, dejected. Nearing the Varaha Pillaiyar temple, he recalled the fat boy and searched for him. When the locals informed him that they had no idea where he lived, but they saw him enter the temple, the merchant realised it was a divine sport. He prostrated to Varaha Pillaiyar and sought His pardon. Appearing before the devotee, Pillaiyar said He merely wanted to highlight the importance of following a dharmic life.

INBRIEF

iPhone-maker Apple to open first store in Pune on Sept. 4

iPhone-maker Apple on Tuesday announced that it will open a new store in Pune next week. The iPhone maker had recently outlined plans to open a new store in Bengaluru on September 2. "Apple today announced it will open doors to its first store in Pune – Apple Koregaon Park – on September 4," the iPhone-maker said in a statement. Customers will also be able to attend 'Today at Apple' sessions at these new store locations. PTI

ABCDL gets nod to operate as online payment aggregator

Aditya Birla Capital Digital Ltd. (ABCDL) has received in-principle approval to operate as an online payment aggregator under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, according to an exchange filing by the company on Tuesday. Aditya Birla Capital Ltd. is a non-banking financial company which holds the financial services business of the Aditya Birla Group. Its consolidated net profit rose 10% year-on-year to ₹835 crore in the first quarter of fiscal 2026.

Hospitality sector's revenue per available room rises 12.9%

India's hospitality industry witnessed a 12.9% year-on-year growth in Revenue per Available Room (RevPAR) during the April-June quarter of this calendar year, a report said on Tuesday. The hospitality sector delivered an exceptional 12.9% RevPAR growth on a year-on-year (YoY) basis with 10% sequential acceleration, demonstrating sustained recovery and expansion trajectory, according to JLL's Hotel Momentum India (HMI) Q2 2025 report. PTI

First batch of e Vitara to set sail for Europe this month

Maruti Suzuki's battery electric vehicle will be the largest mass-produced and exported BEV from India to also be sold in the Indian market; company to invest more than ₹70,000 cr. in India

Lalatendu Mishra
AHMEDABAD

The first batch of e Vitara, the made in India battery electric vehicle (BEV) from Maruti Suzuki's Gujarat plant, will be exported to the European market this month, the automaker said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday commemorated the start of production of the first BEV from the Maruti Suzuki stable, for sale in more than 100 countries, including the U.K. and Japan, at Suzuki Motor Gujarat Private Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.

The Prime Minister also commemorated the start of local manufacturing of the first lithium-ion battery, cell and electrode for strong hybrid electric vehicles at TDS Lithium-Ion Battery Gujarat Private Ltd. (TDSG), a fellow subsidiary of Maruti Suzuki.

Push start: PM Narendra Modi commemorated the production of the first BEV from Maruti Suzuki on Tuesday. BY ARRANGEMENT

The e Vitara is slated to be the largest mass-produced and exported electric vehicle from India that will also be sold in the Indian market.

TDSG has become the first company in India to achieve electrode level localisation of lithium-ion battery cells, making India self- reliant in battery manufacturing for hybrid EVs, the company said.

"We chose this facility to manufacture the e Vitara, our first BEV, and make it a global production hub for this model. We will export this Made-in-India BEV to over 100 countries, including Japan and Europe," said Toshihiro Suzuki, Representative Director and President, Suzuki Motor Corporation.

"We will provide all products and technologies that will reduce oil consumption and imports and carbon emissions like battery electric vehicles, strong hybrid electric vehicles and vehicles powered by natural gas and biofuels," he added.

He said Suzuki Motor would invest more than ₹70,000 crore in India, over the next five to six years.

Suzuki Group has invested over ₹1 lakh crore in India. The investments have also led to the creation of more than 11,00,000 direct jobs in the value chain, the company said.

(The writer was at the Gujarat factory of Maruti Suzuki at the invitation of the company)

Ahead of tariff roll-out, Modi raises pitch for Swadeshi

Lalatendu Mishra
AHMEDABAD

A day before U.S. President Donald Trump's tariff on India could kick in, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called upon Indians to be vocal for local, saying "Swadeshi should be their life's mantra".

In his nearly 30-minute speech at the flagging off event of Maruti Suzuki's BEV e Vitara here on Tuesday, the PM, however, avoided any mention of the tariffs, the U.S., or its President Donald Trump.

Instead, the Prime Minister emphasised on the "lasting and trusted relationship with Japan and Japanese companies which have given a boost to Make in India and Make for the World initiatives."

"Japan will be our trusted partner to achieve our 2047 goals. We are made for each other and are trusted partners," Mr. Modi said.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	80,787	-1.04
US Dollar	87.69	-0.14
Gold	1,00,770	0.59
Brent oil	67.37	-2.14

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2272.00	-30.90
Adani Ports	1315.40	-25.00
Apollo Hosp	7793.50	-57.50
Asian Paints	2481.40	-11.50
Axis Bank	1050.10	-19.90
Bajaj Auto	8691.50	-59.00
Bajaj Finserv	1924.20	-39.60
Bajaj Finance	876.25	-24.55
Bharat Elec	365.85	-6.20
Bharti Airtel	1904.70	-26.00
Cipla	1579.80	-21.40
Coal India	372.45	-7.55
Dr Reddys Lab	1263.20	-20.70
Eicher Motors	6151.00	160.50
Eternal Ltd.	317.90	-1.35
Grasim Ind	2796.20	-15.20
HCL Tech	1492.80	-11.40
HDFC Bank	973.40	-8.65
HDFC Life	776.60	-10.40
Hero MotoCorp	5073.40	9.60
Hindalco	705.70	-10.15
Hind Unilever	2692.60	61.00
ICICI Bank	1416.60	-16.60
IndusInd Bank	756.40	-14.45
Infosys	1529.60	-2.50
ITC	403.35	4.00
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	315.75	-3.95
JSW Steel	1047.10	-10.70
Kotak Bank	1965.70	-17.60
L&T	3541.30	-61.80
M&M	3330.80	-68.10
Maruti Suzuki	14714.00	262.00
NestleIndia	1162.20	9.20
NTPC	333.20	-4.65
ONGC	234.19	-2.57
PowerGrid Corp	279.90	-4.25
Reliance Ind	1384.90	-27.70
SBI Life	1816.60	-30.20
State Bank	807.85	-8.60
Shriram Finance Ltd.	594.70	-26.15
Sun Pharma	1600.30	-56.40
TataConsumerProduct	1079.90	-1.70
Tata Motors	681.65	-5.15
Tata Steel	155.03	-4.60
TCS	3157.20	16.60
Tech Mahindra	1502.20	-24.90
Titan	3594.00	-57.40
Trent Ltd.	5295.00	-128.00
UltraTech Cement	12610.00	4.00
Wipro	252.03	-1.81

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 26

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	87.48	87.80
Euro	101.98	102.36
British Pound	118.00	118.44
Japanese Yen (100)	59.35	59.57
Chinese Yuan	12.22	12.27
Swiss Franc	108.73	109.14
Singapore Dollar	68.07	68.33
Canadian Dollar	63.20	63.44
Malaysian Ringitt	20.73	20.83
Australian Dollar	56.79	57.00

Source:Indian Bank

Pharma industry hopes for relief from GST reforms

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The pharma industry is optimistic that its concerns, especially the inverted duty structure, will be addressed by the forthcoming Goods and Services Tax (GST) reforms, said Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Chairman Satish Reddy.

"For an extended period, the pharmaceutical sector has faced structural challenges, including higher GST rates and an inverted duty structure, which have impacted the cost efficiency of domestic manufacturing and affordability of medicines," Mr. Reddy said.

"We are optimistic the reforms will address these critical concerns," he said on Tuesday.

Welcoming Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent announcement on next-generation GST reforms, he said besides the concerns finding resolution, the industry is also hopeful of the reforms paving way for introduction of a rationalised, industry-friendly tax framework.

"Such measures will significantly improve the affordability and accessibility of essential medicines for every citizen, while also enhancing the global competitiveness and innovation capacity of the Indian pharmaceutical industry," Mr. Reddy said in a statement, days ahead of GST Council meeting that is expected to discuss the reforms.

Reaffirming the pharma industry's committent to working in partnership with the government to ensure the reforms translated into tangible benefits for patients and the broader healthcare ecosystem, Mr. Reddy said amid an "increasingly complex and uncertain geopolitical environment, these steps will not only reinforce India's healthcare security but also strengthen the country's role as a trusted partner in global health supply chains."

'Most narratives fail in equity markets'

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Nifty50 surged 1% on GST rate review annoucement.

Narrative-led stock rallies have a 'pathetic' track record and the rally after the announcement of GST rationalisation is another instance of that, according to a research report by Kotak Institutional Equities.

PM Narendra Modi's announcement on the Union government reviewing the GST regime led to a 1% surge in the Nifty 50 in the following session. Analysts cited the expectation of consumer-facing sectors such as automobiles, consumer discretionary and durables coming under lower slab behind the optimism in the market.

Researchers at Kotak Institutional Equities, however, felt this was one of the many narratives that had gone wrong. GST rationalisation's impact on the corporate India's earnings depended upon many political and macroeconomic issues.

"We note the market has been in the thrall of narratives for a while, with a new narrative catching the fancy of the market every few weeks, only for it to disappear quietly later," said researchers at Kotak Institutional Equities.

U.S. tariffs may hit readymade garment exports: Crisil

M. Soundariya Preetha
COIMBATORE

Revenue growth of India's readymade garment (RMG) sector is likely to halve on-year this fiscal as the imposition of 50% tariffs by the U.S. comes into effect on August 27, Crisil Ratings study shows

Along with a dip in profitability, credit metrics of industry players would be hit. The U.S. is the single-largest market for India's textile and apparels, accounting for close to 28% of exports worth almost $11 billion in 2024-2025.

"We expect U.S.' share in RMG exports to fall from 33% last fiscal to 20-25% this fiscal," said Manish Gupta, deputy chief rating officer, Crisil Ratings.

Tirupur, Noida, Surat stop output on high U.S. tariffs: FIEO

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Apex exporters body FIEO on Tuesday expressed serious concerns over high US tariffs on Indian goods and said textiles and apparel makers in Tirupur, Noida, and Surat have halted production amid worsening cost competitiveness due to these steep duties.

The U.S. duties on Indian goods will increase to 50% from August 27.

The move will severely disrupt the flow of Indian goods to its largest export market, Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) President S. C. Ralhan said.

He described the development as a setback and stated that it can severely impact India's exports to the U.S., with about 55% of India's U.S.-bound shipments (worth $47-48 billion) now exposed to pricing disadvantages of 30-35%, rendering them uncompetitive in comparison to its competitors.

Office of the Medical Superintendent
RUHS Hospital of Medical Sciences, Jaipur
Sector-11, Kumbha Marg, Pratap Nagar, Tonk Road, Jaipur -302033(Raj.)
दूरभाष: 0141-2795577, Email: supdt.hms@ruhsraj.org, ruhshmstore@ruhsraj.org

No. :- F. ( ) RUHS HMS/Store/2025-26/8569 Date :- 25/08/2025

Notice Inviting e-Bids

Single Stage Two envelope Online bids (e-bids) are invited upto 02.00 pm of 26/09/2025 for Supply and Installation of 1. High End Surgical Microscope for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Qty. 01, Total Approx. Cost Rs. 2,50,00,000.00, 2. Electric Saw and Drill System with Attachments, Qty. 01, Approx. Cost Rs. 40,00,000.00 at Dept. of Plastic Surgery, RUHS Hospital of Medical Sciences, Jaipur. Details may be seen in the Bidding Documents at the Website **sppp.raj.nic.in or eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.**

UBN : CMS2526GLOB00087-88
Raj.Samwad/C/25/8741 Medical Superintendent

CBIC TUMAKURU INDUSTRIAL TOWNSHIP LIMITED
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt of Karnataka)
CIN : U74999KA2018PLC118247
GST: 29AAHCC8451F1ZG PAN : AAHCC8451F
Reg. Office : # 49, 5th Floor, 'East Wing', Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru -560001
Ph: +91-80- 22267383 email : mdcbic24@gmail.com

No. CBIC-TITL/ENGG/ETND-EP-03/1528/2025-26 Date: 26.08.2025

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GoK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item Rate Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the work as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following work as per the schedule given below:

Name of the work : Shifting of existing 66kV Antharasanahalli Sira Transmission DC line and 66kV Tap Line to existing 66kV Thovinakere sub station passing over the premises of Chennai Bengaluru Industrial Corridor (CBIC) near Vasanthanarasapura Industrial Area, Tumakuru Taluk & District. (3rd Call)

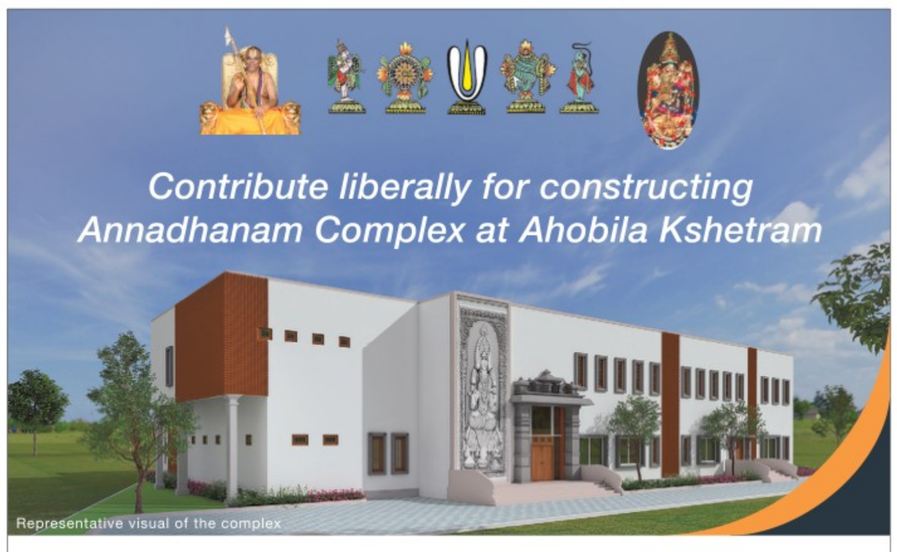
Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the KPP Portal **https://kppp. karnataka.gov.in**

Calendar of Events for E-auction:

- Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: 08.09.2025 upto 04:00 pm

Sd/-
Chief Engineer
CBIC-TITL

DIPR/CP/2492/AKAR/2025-26


Contribute liberally for constructing
Annadhanam Complex at Ahobila Kshetram
Representative visual of the complex

Vidyadhanam & Annadhanam Trust under the aegis of Sri Ahobila Mutt is constructing an Annadhanam and Dharmashala Complex at Ahobila Kshetram, Nandyal District, AP.

The building which approximately measures 30,000 sft over two floors, will have a well-equipped Kitchen, Dining Hall in the ground floor, Washroom facilities and a comfortable Dharmashala in the first floor to house around 200 guests at a time.

Free prasad (meals and tiffin) will be provided by Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Devasthanam in this facility at appropriate times. **This project is estimated to cost about Rs.9 crores.**

Construction is going on in full swing and is expected to be completed by November 2025 in all respects.

Donations can have the benefit under Sec 80G of Income Tax Act.

Given below are the bank details:
Name: Vidyadhanam & Annadhanam Trust
Bank: Canara Bank
Branch: St. Mary's Road Chennai 600018
A/c No.: 1287101014668
IFSC Code: CNRB0001287

Donations from overseas can be sent to FCRA approved account as below:
Name: Vidyadhanam & Annadhanam Trust
Bank: State Bank of India | Branch: New Delhi Main Branch, New Delhi 110001 | A/c No: 40108524163
IFSC Code: SBIN0000691 | SWIFT: SBININBB104

For more information, contact: vat.trustee@gmail.com +91 9380718914

Centre cuts wheat stock limits to 'manage food security'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Wheat-stocking entities must update position every Friday.

The Union Food Ministry further reduced wheat stock limits for traders, stockists and processors and said the measure was to manage "overall food security and prevent hoarding and unscrupulous speculation." The Centre, however, said there was ample availability of wheat in the country and in 2024-25, wheat output was 1175.07 lakh metric tonne.

The Government said as part of "continuous efforts to moderate prices of wheat before the upcoming festive season", the wheat stock limit is revised until March 31, 2026. For trader/ wholesaler, the limit has been reduced to 2,000 metric tonne (MT) from the existing limit of 3,000 MT. For retailers, 8 MT is the new limit. Earlier, it was 10 MT. For big-chain retailers too, 8 MT for each retail outlet subject to maximum quantity of (8 multiplied by total no. of outlets) MT is the new limit.

"This will be the maximum stock that can be held at all their retail outlets and depots put together," the Government said.

For processors, 60% of Monthly Installed Capacity (MIC) multiplied by the remaining months of 2025-26 is the limit. It was 70% of MIC multiplied by remaining months of 2025-26.

The Centre asked all wheat stocking entities to declare or update the stock position on every Friday on the wheat stock portal.

BRUSSELS

EU asserts 'sovereign right' to regulate tech after Trump threat

REUTERS

The European Commission asserted the "sovereign right" to regulate the activities of tech giants within the bloc and rejected claims by Donald Trump that its rules unfairly harm U.S. firms. The EU had recently adopted laws such as the DMA to cover competition and the DSA on content moderation to rein in in tech giants. AFP

TEHRAN

Negotiating with 'all our might' to prevent sanctions snapback: Iran

AP

Iran said on Tuesday it was making every effort to prevent a sanctions snapback, which European powers have threatened to impose under the moribund 2015 nuclear deal. Iran Foreign Ministry said Tehran was "negotiating with all our might" ahead of planned talks with Britain, France and Germany on Tuesday in Geneva. AFP

BEIJING

Beijing rejects Japan's protest over gas field in disputed East China Sea

AP

China said on Tuesday it rejected a protest lodged by Japan over the development of gas fields in disputed waters of the East China Sea. Tokyo's Foreign Ministry said late on Monday it had confirmed that Beijing was setting up drilling rigs in the area — where the two countries' exclusive economic zones (EEZ) claims overlap. AFP

PARIS

Macron hits back at Netanyahu's criticism of French 'anti-Semitism'

AFP

French President Emmanuel Macron rejected Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's recent criticism over rising anti-Semitism in France and warned the issue should not be "weaponised", in a letter to the Israeli leader. Mr. Macron earlier said France would formally recognise a Palestinian state during a UN meeting in September. AFP

Protesters in Israel demand release of hostages as strikes kill 16 in Gaza

Protesters, who joined a call for a 'National Day of Struggle', waved banners that read 'Hostage Deal Now'; Gaza's Health Ministry says 3 more adults died of causes related to starvation, bringing the malnutrition-related toll to 186 since late June

Associated Press
LOD

Fiery protest: Demonstrators block a highway in Tel Aviv on Tuesday demanding the release of all hostages held in Gaza. AP

Protesters in Israel on Tuesday torched tires, blocked highways and clamoured for a ceasefire that would free hostages still in Gaza, even as Israeli leaders moved forward with plans for an offensive which they argue is needed to defeat Hamas.

The disruption came as Palestinians in Gaza braced for the expanded offensive against a backdrop of displacement, destruction and parts of the territory plunging into famine.

It also followed deadly strikes a day earlier on Gaza's main hospital which killed 20 people, including medics and journalists.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said Israel will launch an expanded offensive in Gaza City while simultaneously pursuing a ceasefire, though Israel has yet to send a negotiating team to discuss a proposal on the table.

"Go back to the negotiation table. There's a good deal on the table. It's something we can work with," said Ruby Chen, the father of 21-year-old Itay Chen, a dual Israeli-American citizen whose body is being held in Gaza. "We could get a deal done to bring all the hostages back."

Responding to a call from Israel's Hostages and Missing Families Forum for a 'National Day of Struggle', protesters waved banners that read 'Hostage Deal Now'.

Calls for a ceasefire came a day after Israel struck southern Gaza's main hospital, killing at least five journalists and 15 others. A day after the strike, Israeli strikes killed at least 16 Palestinians on Tuesday, hospitals said.

Officials from Nasser Hospital, Shifa Hospital and Gaza City's Sheikh Radwan clinic reported that among the 16 were families, women and children.

Gaza's Health Ministry also said on Tuesday that three more adults died of causes related to malnutrition and starvation, bringing the malnutrition-related death toll to 186 since late June, when the ministry started to count fatalities among this age category. The toll includes 117 children since the start of the war.

Junta strike on Myanmar's hunger-racked region kills 12

Agence France-Presse
MRAUK U

Taking stock: People inspect the damage on Tuesday after bombings carried out by the junta in Rakhine the previous night. AFP

A Myanmar junta air strike on a rebel-held town in the country's hunger-ravaged west killed at least 12 persons, witnesses of the overnight bombing said on Tuesday.

Rakhine State has been blockaded by Myanmar's military as it battles ethnic fighters in a many-sided civil war that has consumed the country since the junta toppled the democratic government in a 2021 coup.

Agriculture has withered and hyperinflation has spread, with suffering exacerbated by U.S.-led aid cuts. The United Nations warned this month of a "dramatic rise in hunger".

The air strike hit the northern town of Mrauk U around 11:00 p.m. on Monday.

Maung Than Chay said the 12 fatalities included three of his grandchildren, who were buried in the wreckage of his home and those of his neighbours destroyed by two bombs.

"It is terrible – like the end of my life," he said. "I have lost everything."

"I have no food to eat, no place to stay, no pots to cook, no money to buy, because everything has been destroyed," he said.

At least 10 bodies were laid out in public on Tuesday.

The junta controls only three out of the 17 townships in coastal Rakhine, where it is battling to claw back ground ahead of a disputed election it plans to start in territories it controls in December.

Trump to fire Federal Reserve Governor in unprecedented move

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

Lisa Cook

U.S. President Donald Trump said on Monday night that he's firing Federal Reserve Governor Lisa Cook, an unprecedented move that would constitute a sharp escalation in his battle to exert greater control over what has long been considered an institution independent from day-to-day politics.

'Mortage fraud'

Mr. Trump said in a letter posted on his Truth Social platform that he is removing Ms. Cook effective immediately because of allegations that she committed mortgage fraud.

Ms. Cook said on Monday night that she would not step down.

Bill Pulte, a Trump appointee to the agency that regulates mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, made the accusations last week.

Mr. Pulte alleged that Ms. Cook had claimed two primary residences – in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Atlanta – in 2021 to get better mortgage terms.

Mortgage rates are often higher on second homes or those purchased to rent.

China, Russia ties are the 'most stable' in turbulent world: Xi

Agence France-Presse
BEIJING

Relations between Beijing and Moscow have deepened since Russia invaded Ukraine in Feb. 2022

President Xi Jinping said on Tuesday that China's ties with Russia are the "most stable, mature and strategically significant" among major world powers, state media reported.

During a meeting with Vyacheslav Volodin, chairman of Russia's Duma, or lower house of parliament, Mr. Xi hailed the countries' relationship as being a "stable source of world peace", Chinese state broadcaster CCTV said.

"The two sides should... work together to safeguard the security and development interests of both countries, unite the Global South, uphold true multilateralism, and promote the international order towards greater fairness and justice," Mr. Xi told Mr. Volodin in Beijing.

Former socialist allies with a history of tempestuous ties, relations between Beijing and Moscow have deepened since Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022.

China has never denounced the war nor called for Moscow to withdraw its troops, and many of Ukraine's allies believe that Beijing has provided support to its vast northern neighbour.

Russian President Vladimir Putin is set to visit China from this weekend.

Ranil Wickremesinghe granted bail

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Police restrain supporters of Ranil Wickremesinghe during a protest in Colombo on Tuesday ahead of his bail hearing. AFP

Sri Lanka's former President Ranil Wickremesinghe was granted bail on Tuesday by the Colombo Magistrate Court, days after he was arrested for allegedly misusing state funds for a private visit to London in 2023.

The bail was granted on health grounds, local media reported, after the hearing on Tuesday afternoon, amid tight security around the court, where Mr. Wickremesinghe's supporters had gathered. Soon after he was remanded in custody on Friday, Mr. Wickremesinghe was transferred to the prison hospital and later to the Colombo National Hospital's intensive care unit, where he has been receiving treatment since. Hospital officials said the 76-year-old was "severely dehydrated" and that his high blood pressure and diabetes condition needed monitoring. Mr. Wickremesinghe joined Tuesday's court hearing from the ICU through a web link.

The former President is accused of spending state funds – to the tune of LKR 16.6 million (about $55,000) – while in office, for stopping over in the U.K., to attend a ceremony at a British University along with his wife, a senior academic. Mr. Wickremesinghe's office has denied he misused public funds during the visit. This is the first time a former head of State in Sri Lanka has faced arrest, and the move came as part of the National People's Power government's ongoing crackdown on corruption. It brought diverse opposition voices together in support of Mr. Wickremesinghe, a six-time Prime Minister and accidental President.

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identification No: U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website: www.pspcl.in
Contact No. 96461-17633, Email: ase-civil-ghtp@pspcl.in
Tender Enquiry No. - 506/PCM-513/2025-26 Dated:26.08.2025
e-Tender
Additional Superintending Engineer, Plant Civil Mtc. Cell, GHTP, Lehra Mohabat invites e-tender from Work contract for replacement of PVC fill blocks, supporting SS pipes, SS hangers and replacement of damaged beams etc. of Cooling Tower No. IV during shutdown in February 2026. For detailed NIT & tender specification, please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 26.08.2025 from 03.00 PM onwards.
Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
GHTP 68/25 1079/12/2025-26/2577

ANDHRA PRADESH POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LIMITED
VIDYUT SOUDHA, VIJAYAWADA-520004
TENDER NOTICE (NIT) No.RFx: 510000270
APGENCO invites tenders for the work of "Dr.M.V.R RTPP - Procurement of 60KG rails in place of 52kg rails and accessories for replacement of rails in main line from Muddanur Railway Siding to RTPP from Ch 2.20KM to 3.30KM for Regular Maintenance of Railway Siding and Marshalling Yard at RTPP" through APGENCO e-procurement platform **"https://etender.apgenco.gov.in/irj/portal"**. Estimated Contract Value (ECV) is Rs.1,44,65,100/-(Rupees One Crore Forty Four Lakh Sixty Five Thousand and One Hundred only) Schedule Available Date & Time: 26.08.2025, 3.00PM. Bid Submission closing Date & time: 16.09.2025, 11.00 AM. Bid opening date & time: after 11.30 AM on 16.09.2025.Ph: 0866-2526416 (or) 0866-2526813, 6433. Detailed tender notice is placed in **www.apgenco.gov.in**
DIPR 4377PP/CL, Dt: 26/08/2025

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure - Traffic Engineering Cell-1, Ground Floor, Annexe Building-3, BBMP Head Office, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.
No: EE/RI-TEC-1/PR/262/2025-26 Date: 26-08-2025
CORRIGENDUM-1
Sub: Extension of Calendar of Events for Tender Notification.
Ref.: 1) This Office Tender Notification No: EE/RI/TEC-1/TEND/01/2025-26, Dated: 21-08-2025.
With respect to above Subject, **Due to Technical Reasons the Calendar of Events for the above Tender Notification is extended as below.**
Revised Calendar of Events: 1) Downloading of Tender Document from KPP Portal: **29-08-2025 onwards. 2)** Date of Pre Bid Meeting: **02-09-2025 at 16.30 Hours. 3)** Last Date for Submission of Tenders: **09-09-2025 upto 16.00 Hours. 4)** Date of Opening of Technical Bids: **10-09-2025 after 16.30 Hours. 5)** Date of Opening of Financial Bids: **Will be intimated to the Qualified Tenderers.** Further details visit GOK KPP Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Road Infrastructure - Traffic Engineering Cell-1, BBMP.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಮೈಸೂರು–570005
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 0821–2526347, ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: ceo_zp_mys@nic.in
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಡಿಆರ್‌ಡಿಎ(2)/NRLM/ಹೊ.ಗು.ನೇ/ಇ–27424/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.08.2025
ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಮೈಸೂರು ಸಂಜೀವಿನಿ–NRLM ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮತ್ತು ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಅಭಿಯಾನ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಘಟಕಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳನ್ನು ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನ.
- ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.232.65 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
- ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.2,00,000/– (ಎರಡು ಲಕ್ಷ ರೂ.ಗಳು ಮಾತ್ರ)
- ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 22.09.2025 ಅಪರಾಹ್ನ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ
- ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.09.2025 ಪೂರ್ವಾಹ್ನ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ
- ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ : https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಎನ್.ಆರ್.ಎಲ್.ಎಂ. ಶಾಖೆಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.
ಸಹಿ/–
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯುವ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ ಹಾಗೂ
ಯೋಜನಾ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಾಂಚಾಯತ್, ಮೈಸೂರು.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (South Zone & Bommanahalli Constituency) Lakes, Division Room No.309, 3rd Floor, New Building, N.R.Square, Bengaluru-560002
No. EE-South Zone & BC/(Lakes)/TN-07/2025-26 Date : 25-08-2025
INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Short Term Tender Notification) (Through GOK KPP Portal Only)
Tenders on Item Rate Basis are invited by the undersigned for the work mentioned below from the registered contractors of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES or any State Government Organizations.

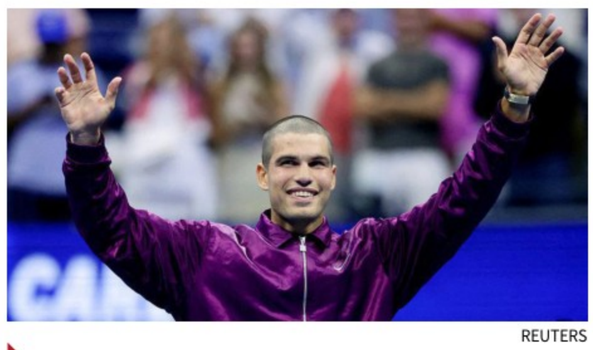
Sl.	Name of the Work
1	Supply and Installation of Lake Information Boards at Begur, Beratena Agrahara, Swarnakunta Gudda Kere, Dorekere, Arekere Lake, Agara Lake, Ibblur Lake, Sarakki Lake. **Value of work :** Rs. 4.9 Lakhs. **EMD :** Rs. 12,250/-
2	Supply and Installation of Lake Information Boards at Byrasandra (Chikkapete) Lake, Kempambhudi Lake, Deepanjali Lake, Mesthripalya Lake and Gowdanpalya Lake. **Value of work :** Rs. 2.1 Lakhs. **EMD :** Rs. 5250/-

(1) Bid documents can be downloaded from **26-08-2025** onwards from the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** **(2)** Tenders must be submitted through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal on or before **16.00 hours** on **03-09-2025. (3)** Technical Bids will be opened on the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** in the office of the Executive Engineer (South Zone & BC) Lakes, BBMP on **04-09-2025 at 16.30 hours.**
Sd/- Executive Engineer (South Zone & Bommanahalli Constituency) Lakes Division

Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Urban District
No: MAG(4)/MIS/CR/123/2023-24 Date: 22.08.2025
Notification Regarding Appointment of a Member from Civil Society to the Bengaluru Urban District Police Complaints Authority
In accordance with Section 20D of the Karnataka Police (Amendment) Act, 2012, and with the objective of facilitating the public to lodge complaints against Deputy Superintendents of Police and officers of lower ranks, a District Police Complaints Authority has been constituted under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner.
As per Section 20D (ii) of the Act, provision has been made to appoint one member from civil society to the said authority, in addition to other members.
Those who wish to be appointed as member should be someone who has been involved in public-oriented social services such as in the fields of education, health, or poverty eradication. The applicant must not be affiliated with any political party or ideological group.
Applications are hereby invited for the appointment of one member from civil society to the District Police Complaints Authority. Interested individuals are instructed to submit their application along with personal details (biodata) to the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Urban District, K.G. Road, Bengaluru, within 15 days from the date of this notification.
Sd/- Jagadeesh G., I.A.S.
Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate
Bengaluru Urban District
DIPR/CP/R2491/AAPL/2025-26

MAKEOVER

I think people like it: Alcaraz about his new hairstyle



REUTERS

Carlos Alcaraz unveiled a striking new hairstyle before easing past Reilly Opelka in the US Open first round. Alcaraz's new look failed to impress some with fellow player Frances Tiafoe calling it "terrible". "I think I've got to ask the people if they like it or not," Alcaraz said, to cheers from the New York crowd. "I think they like it."

BEING PRACTICAL

Asian Games on Joshna's radar, but LA Olympics a 'long way off'

KAMESH SRINIVASAN

I am taking it one tournament at a time. The 2026 Asian Games in Japan is there in the back of my mind, but it depends on how I do in a few events. The LA Olympic Games in 2028 is a long way off for me right now. I love winning medals for India. That's always been my biggest motivation — Squash star Joshna Chinappa

RECORD-BREAKER

Ngumoha becomes youngest goal-scorer in Liverpool's history

AP

Liverpool needed a 100th-minute winner from 16-year-old Rio Ngumoha to beat Newcastle 3-2 in a Premier League thriller on Monday. Ngumoha became the youngest goal-scorer in Liverpool's history. **The result:** Newcastle 2 (Guimaraes 57, Osula 88) lost to Liverpool 3 (Gravenberch 35, Ekitike 46, Ngumoha 90+10).

SINQUEFIELD CUP

Praggnanandhaa in joint lead after facile win; Gukesh loses to So

FLCIKR@STLCHESSCLUB

R. Praggnanandhaa beat Alireza Firouzja to join Fabiano Caruana at the top of the table with 4.5 points after seven rounds, on a day when D. Gukesh was outplayed by Wesley So, in the Sinquefield Cup at St. Louis on Monday. Levon Aronian and So are third with four points apiece while Gukesh and Alireza Firouzja have 3.5.

Goa to host the Chess World Cup in November

Sports Bureau

The Chess World Cup will get underway in Goa on November 1. The knockout tournament featuring most of the world's top players will conclude on November 26, or a day earlier, if the final is decided without the tiebreakers.

This is the second time India is hosting the prestigious event; the first one was in 2002 in Hyderabad, where Viswanathan Anand became the champion. Last month, Divya Deshmukh had won the women's World Cup after beating Koneru Humpy in an all-India final in Georgia.

As the host, India should be hoping to make it a double. In players like World champion D. Gukesh, R. Praggnanandhaa and Arjun Erigaisi, India has some strong contenders.

"After the success of the women's World Cup held in Georgia, we are proud to bring the FIDE World Cup to Goa," the world chess governing body's president Arkady Dvorkovich said. "The representatives of 90 plus countries are expected to take part."

The top three from the World Cup will become eligible to play at Candidates tournament, the qualifier for the World championship.

New-look Alcaraz makes the second round in quick time

Venus, back at Flushing Meadows at the age of 45, exits in the opening round; Swiatek cruises past Arango; sixth seed Keys crashes out; two-time Wimbledon champion Kvitova's professional career comes to an end

US OPEN

Reuters
NEW YORK

Carlos Alcaraz cruised into the second round of the US Open with a straight-sets mauling of big-serving American Reilly Opelka on Monday, while veteran Venus Williams made an emotional exit at the hands of 11th seed Karolina Muchova.

Alcaraz, sporting a new buzz cut that has sparked plenty of chatter on social media, dismantled Opelka 6-4, 7-5, 6-4 under the bright lights of Arthur Ashe Stadium to set up a second-round encounter with Italian Mattia Bellucci.

Venus, back at Flushing Meadows at the age of 45 after a year's hiatus, fought bravely against Muchova, before bowing out 6-3, 2-6, 6-1.

"I'm very proud of how I played. I think for me getting back on the court was about giving myself a chance to play more healthy." said Venus, who disclosed in 2011 that she had been diagnosed Sjogren's, an autoimmune disease that causes fatigue and joint pain.

New high: Swiatek has become the first to win 65 successive WTA-level first round matches. REUTERS

IMPORTANT RESULTS

First round: Men:
27-Shapovalov (Can) bt Fucsovics (Hun) 6-4, 6-4, 6-0; 10-Musetti (Ita) bt Perricard (Fra) 6-7(3), 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 24-Cobolli (Ita) bt Passaro (Ita) 7-5, 4-6, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3. 5-Draper (GBr) bt Gomez (Arg) 6-4, 7-5, 6-7(7), 6-2; 15-Rublev bt Prizmic (Cro) 6-4, 6-4, 6-4; 9-Khachanov bt Basavareddy (USA) 6-7(5), 6-3, 7-5, 6-1; Comesana (Arg) bt 28-Michelsen (USA) 1-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 17-Tiafoe (USA) bt Nishioka (Jpn) 6-3, 7-6(6), 6-3; 11-Rune (Den) bt van de Zandschulp (Ned) 6-3, 7-6(4), 7-6(2); 12-Ruud (Nor) bt Ofner (Aut) 6-1, 6-2, 7-6(5); 2-Alcaraz (Esp) bt Opelka (USA) 6-4, 7-5, 6-4; 31-Diallo (Can) bt Dzumhur (BIH) 7-6(4), 4-6, 7-5, 7-5.
Women: 2-Swiatek (Pol) bt Arango (Col) 6-1, 6-2; 27-Kostyuk (Ukr) bt Boulter (GBr) 6-4, 6-4; Joint (Aus) bt Jimenez (And) 6-4, 7-6(6); 5-Andreeva bt Parks (USA) 6-0, 6-1; 19-Mertens (Bel) bt Ahn (USA) 6-1, 6-0; 9-Rybakina (Kaz) bt Pareja (USA) 6-3, 6-0. 17-Samsonova bt Yuan Yue (Chn) 2-6, 6-4, 6-4; Zarazua (Mex) bt 6-Keys (USA) 6-7(10), 7-6(3), 7-5. 11-Muchova (Cze) bt Venus (USA) 6-3, 2-6, 6-1; 15-Kasatkina (Aus) bt Ruse (Rou) 7-5, 6-1; 28-Frech (Pol) bt Gibson (Aus) 6-2, 6-2; Bondar (Hun) bt 12-Svitolina (Ukr) 6-2, 6-4; 29-Kalinskaya bt Ngounoue (USA) 6-0, 5-7, 6-4.

Talented teen Mirra Andreeva crushed Alycia Parks 6-0, 6-1 with a near-flawless performance but an error-strewn showing from sixth seed Madison Keys saw the Australian Open champion upset 6-7 (10), 7-6(3), 7-5 by Renata Zarazua.

The Mexican will now take on Diane Parry, who routed Petra Kvitova 6-1, 6-0 in the Czech's final professional match.

Wednesday's Picks

WOMEN	
1	Sabalenka vs Kudermetova
4	Pegula vs Blinkova
5	Andreeva vs Potapova
7	Paolini vs Jovic
9	Rybakina vs Valentova
MEN	
2	Alcaraz vs Bellucci
4	Fritz vs Harris
5	Draper vs Bergs
6	Shelton vs Carreno Busta
7	Djokovic vs Svajda

Fallen seeds
Men: 22-Humbert, 28-Michelsen; **women:** 6-Keys, 12-Svitolina, 22-Mboko

On Tuesday, Iga Swiatek launched her quest for a second title with an emphatic 6-1, 6-2 victory over Colombia's Emiliana Arango.

The 24-year-old Polish ace was always in control against the 84th-ranked Arango, overwhelming the Colombian with powerful groundstrokes mixed with deft work at the net.

The win made Swiatek the first woman in history to win 65 consecutive WTA-level first round matches, surpassing Monica Seles' record of 64.

Duleep Trophy back in its traditional style

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Not many things in Indian cricket change as quickly as the Duleep Trophy format. From being a zonal event for more than 50 years, the multi-day competition, in recent times, has alternated between being a zonal tournament and having inorganically formed teams named after colours and alphabets.

From Thursday, at the brand new BCCI Centre of Excellence grounds in the city's outskirts, the 2025-26 edition will begin, this time in its traditional zonal style after a third shuffle in four seasons. North takes on East while Central meets North East. The winners will play direct semifinalists South and West respectively.

When the squads were announced, Test skipper Shubman Gill was named captain of North, a side also featuring Arshdeep Singh and Harshit Rana. But with all three part of the squad for Asia Cup which begins in the United Arab Emirates on September 9, there is an element of doubt regarding their participation. The zonal selectors, in fact, had named potential replacements for all three.

East boasts of talents such as Abhimanyu Easwaran, who is set to lead the side, Mohammed Shami and Mukesh Kumar. Akash Deep and Ishan Kishan are expected to miss out because of injuries. Central has in its roster Dhruv Jurel, Rajat Patidar and the Asia Cup-bound Kuldeep Yadav while North East will be led by Nagaland's Rongsen Jonathan.

Shami will be keenly watched, for he was not picked for the five-Test England sojourn after being deemed lacking in match-fitness. The 34-year-old last played a First Class game in November 2024. Mukesh, who has fallen down the Indian fast-bowling pecking order, will be eager to impress. The BCCI will also test a "serious injury replacement substitute" rule to cover for grave injuries like those suffered by Rishabh Pant (broken foot) and Chris Woakes (dislocated shoulder) in England.

Coming as the Duleep does at the beginning of the domestic season, stellar deeds can catch national attention. But with India scheduled to play just four Tests until the end of the year – two home matches each versus the West Indies and South Africa – it remains to be seen how much weightage these performances will get.

But unlike 2024, when teams were handpicked to be evenly matched and it admittedly led to quality cricket, the outfits have an identity this time around and an opportunity to forge a collective. Will some riveting action follow?

Three Indians take silver; Koyel scripts youth record

WEIGHTLIFTING

Y.B. Sarangi
AHMEDABAD

India's elite lifters could not rise to expectations as Raja Muthupandi (65kg, men), Sneha Soren (53kg, women) and Bindyarani Devi (58kg, women) finished second best in the Commonwealth weightlifting championships at the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex, Naranpura, here on Tuesday.

Muthupandi, who managed a one-kg lead over Papua New Guinea's Morea Baru and a three-kg lead over Malaysia's double Commonwealth Games champion Aznil Bidin in snatch, saw Baru surge ahead with a total of 292kg, thanks to his third clean and jerk attempt (165kg). But Bidin lifted 168kg in his second visit to aggregate 293kg. After failing in his second effort at 167kg, Muthupandi lifted 168kg in the next to finish with a total of 296kg.

Bidin then made a successful jump of four kg to reach 297kg, pipping Muthupandi to the gold.

Golden lift: Elliott pipped Bindyarani to the top spot. VIJAY SONEJI

Despite a smooth snatch of 91kg, Bindyarani trailed Australia's Kiana Elliott by nine kg. The latter registered 112kg in her second of the three back-to-back clean and jerk attempts, leaving Bindyarani to cover 12kg in two lifts. With seven kg left in her final attempt, it was too much for the Indian.

Sneha had a forgettable outing as she totalled 285kg, seven kg less than youth and junior champion Koyel Bar, who scripted a youth world record.

Anik Modi (238kg) and Yash Khandagale (273kg) clinched the men's 65kg youth and junior crowns while Bhavana Gogoi (162kg) and Mina Santa (185kg) emerged the women's 58kg youth and junior champions.

Important results (winners only, Indians unless mentioned): Men: 65kg: 1. Aznil Bidin (Mas) snatch 125kg, clean and jerk 172kg, total 297kg, 2. Raja Muthupandi 128kg, 168kg, 296kg.

Women: 53kg: 1. Omolola Didih (Ngr) 90kg, 107kg, 197kg, 2. Sneha Soren 81kg, 104kg, 185kg; **58kg:** 1. Kiana Elliott (Aus) 100kg, 112kg, 212kg, 2. Bindyarani 91kg, 115kg, 206kg.

Sindhu and Prannoy progress

Press Trust of India
PARIS

P.V. Sindhu and H.S. Prannoy advanced to the second round of women's and men's singles competitions respectively with straight-game wins at the BWF World badminton championships here on Tuesday.

Sindhu beat Bulgaria's Kaloyana Nalbantova 23-21, 21-6, while Prannoy prevailed 21-18, 21-15 over Finland's World No. 47 Joakim Oldorff in a 47-minute battle.

Sindhu, who triumphed in 2019, looked nervy at the start but slowly stepped up the pace and sharpened her attack to outwit the World No. 69.

The mixed doubles pair of Rohan Kapoor and Ruthvika Shivani Gadde also crossed the opening hurdle, beating Macau's Leong Iok Chong and NG Weng Chi 18-21, 21-16, 21-18.

Other results:
Men: Doubles: Yang Po-han & Liu Kuang-Heng (Tpe) bt Ruban Kumar Rethinasabapathi & A. Hariharan 21-15, 21-5.
Women: Doubles: Margot Lambert & Camille Pognante (Fra) bt Priya Konjengbam & Shruti Mishra 21-17, 21-16.

Sift hits the bull's eye as India continues gold rush at Asians

SHOOTING

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

World record holder and Asian Games champion Sift Kaur Samra beat Yang Yujie of China by 0.4 point to cinch the gold, after topping qualification with 589, in the rifle 3-position event in the 16th Asian shooting championship in Shymkent, Kazakhstan, on Tuesday.

The Indian shooters continued their remarkable gold hunt, with eight gold medals on the day, apart from the silver and bronze.

Sift won the team gold also along with Ashi Chouksey and Anjum Moudgil.

The juniors were not to be left behind in the rifle 3-position event as Anushka Thoukur won the individual gold, and the team gold in the company of Mahit Sandhu and Prachi Gaikwad.

Anushka was particularly impressive as she beat Oh Sehee of Korea by five points for the gold, while Prachi had done well to top score in qualification with 588.

A Lot to cheer: Ashi, Sift and Anjum, bottom left to right, and Mahit, Anushka and Prachi, top left to right, who won the 50m rifle 3-position women's and junior women's titles. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Sabeera Haris beat compatriot Addya Katyal 39-38 for the junior women's trap gold, and the team took the gold, with Bhavya Tripathi pulling her weight by scoring 109.

Arya Vansh Tyagi lost the shoot-off for gold 0-1 to Nikita Moisseyev of Kazakhstan in junior men's trap. The team gold was won by India with Arjun and Vinay Pratap Chandrawat lending support.

India also won the junior men's rapid fire pistol team gold, while the young Sameer Gulia won the individual bronze.

India took its medals tally to the top with 39 gold, 14 silver and 17 bronze.

The results: 50m rifle 3-position: Women: 1. Sift Kaur Samra 459.2 (589); 2. Yang Yujie (Chn) 458.8 (584); 3. Misaki Nobata (Jpn) 448.2 (587); 7. Ashi Chouksey 402.8 (586); 22. Anjum Moudgil 578; RPO; Shriyanka Sadangi 589; Mehuli Ghosh 577.
Team: 1. India 1753; 2. Japan 1750; 3. Korea 1747.
Juniors: 1. Anushka Thokur 460.7 (583); 2. Oh Sehee (Kor) 455.7 (584); 3. Sim Yeojin (Kor) 443.9 (580); 5. Mahit Sandhu 423.0 (587); 6. Prachi Gaikwad 413.9 (588); 7. Melvina Angeline 576; 9. Aadhya Agrawal 572; 21. Rutuja Gavali 545.
Team: 1. India 1758; 2. Korea 1740; 3. Kazakhstan 1706.
25m rapid fire pistol: Junior men: 1. Son Geonwoo (Kor) 25(4) 567; 2. Kirill Tsukanov (Kaz) 25(3) 572; 3. Sameer 21 (576); 5. Suraj Sharma 12 (577); 6. Abhinav Choudhary 4 (571).
Team: 1. India 1724; 2. Kazakhstan 1685; 3. Korea 1673.
Trap: Junior men: 1. Nikita Moisseyev (Kaz) 40(1) 117; 2. Arya Vansh Tyagi 40(0) 112; 3. Ghassan Baaklini (Lbn) 31 (116); 4. Arjun 26 (110); 6. Vinay Pratap Chandrawat 15 (112); 9. Aman Chauhan 107; 10. Zuhair Khan 106; 12. Udhav Rathore 106.
Team: 1. India 328; 2. Kazakhstan 322; 3. Kuwait 297.
Junior women: 1. Sabeera Haris 39 (105); 2. Addya Katyal 38 (110); 3. Milana Papchikhina (Kaz) 29 (106); 6. Bhavya Tripathi 14 (109); 10. Shreshtha Sisodiya 101.
Team: 1. India 324; 2. Kazakhstan 323.

INBRIEF

PKL 12: Bengal Warriorz names Devank as captain

Bengal Warriorz on Tuesday announced star raider Devank Dalal as its captain for Season 12 of the Pro Kabaddi League (PKL), with veteran defender Nitesh Kumar appointed defence captain.

Jatinder to lead Oman in its maiden Asia Cup appearence

Jatinder Singh will captain Oman in its first appearance at the Asia Cup.

The squad: Jatinder Singh (Capt.), Hammad Mirza, Vinayak Shukla, Sufyan Yousuf, Ashish Odedera, Aamir Kaleem, Mohammed Nadeem, Sufyan Mehmood, Aryan Bisht, Karan Sonavale, Zikriya Islam, Hassnain Ali Shah, Faisal Shah, Muhammed Imran, Nadeem Khan, Shakeel Ahmad and Samay Shrivastava.

Perez and Bottas to drive for Cadillac in its debut F1 season

Former Red Bull driver Sergio Perez and Valtteri Bottas will drive for Cadillac next season, the new Formula One team announced on Tuesday. The pair will be making a return to the grid in 2026, after being dropped this year, for the American outfit, who become F1's 11th team on the grid.

All-round Vishal excels in Presidency School's win

Vishal Reddy (4/5 and 32 n.o.) helped Presidency School (R.T. Nagar) defeat St. John's HS in the K.M. Ramprasad Shield under-16 second division inter-school tournament.

The scores: St. John's HS 72 in 21.3 overs (Vishal Reddy 4/5) lost to Presidency (R.T. Nagar) 75/1 in 8.2 overs (Sathwik Rao 33 n.o., Vishal Reddy 32 n.o.).
Carmel (Padmanabhanagar) 112 in 17 overs (P. Padmaj 4/26) lost to Sudarshan Vidyamandir (ICSE) 113/8 in 31.1 overs.
Bethany 82 in 20.2 overs (Neev Bhattacharjee 50) lost to Frank Antony 83/1 in 5.5 overs (Rishi Harivatsa 33 n.o.).
Sri Kumaran (ICSE) 71 in 17.5 overs (Nehal Jishnu 30, Shyam Simhadri 3/20) lost to Vydehi School of Excellence 65/2 in 9.1 overs.

LIVE TELECAST

Maharaja T20 trophy: Star Sports 2 & FanCode, 7.15 p.m.
US Open: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 8.30 p.m.
Champions League: (playoffs, second-leg), Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 10.15 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Thursday)
LaLiga: FanCode, 12.30 a.m. (Thursday)

ON THURSDAY

Duleep Trophy: JioHotstar, 9.30 a.m.
Maharaja T20 trophy: Star Sports 2 & FanCode, 7.15 p.m.
US Open: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 8.30 p.m.
Champions League: (Group stage draw), Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 9.30 p.m.

Tigers maul Dragons to make the summit clash

Padikkal undefeated 99 and Abhinav's half-century help Hubli pile up a big score before Bhatkal & Co. wreak havoc to skittle out Mangaluru; Bengaluru Blasters eliminate Gulbarga Mystics

MAHARAJA TROPHY

C.K. Muralidharan
MYSURU

Opener and skipper Devdutt Padikkal's brilliant unbeaten 99 (64b, 10x4, 5x6), Abhinav Manohar's blistering 50 (23b, 5x4, 3x6) and off-spinner Ritesh Bhatkal's three for 20 enabled Hubli Tigers to register a thumping 110- run win over Mangaluru Dragons in Qualifier 1 of the Maharaja Trophy on Tuesday.

Electing to bat, Padikkal and fellow-opener Mohammad Taha (37, 28b, 4x4, 2x6) stitched together a 81-run partnership in 61 balls before Padikkal and Abhinav added 105 in 48 balls to propel Tigers to 210 for two in 20 overs.

Padikkal impressed with his lofted shots, drives, cuts and pulls, while Abhinav too excelled with an all-round stroke-play.

In reply, Dragons were bowled out for 100 in 16.1 overs with K.V. Aneesh top-scoring with 28. Bhatkal was well supported by Sreesha Achar, Yashraj Punja and K.C. Cariappa, who took two wickets each.

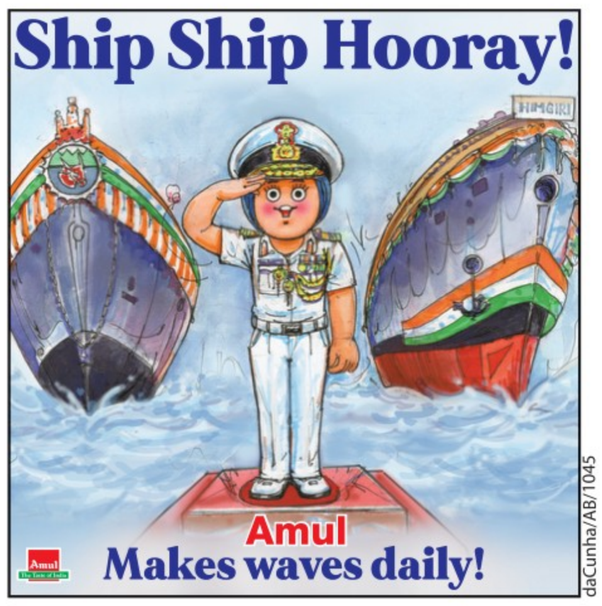
Later, Bengaluru Blasters rode on a stroke-filled 40 (20b, 5x4, 2x6) by opener L.R. Chethan and Suraj Ahuja's 44 n.o. (20b, 7x4, 2x6) to register a facile eight-wicket win over Gulbarga Mystics in the Eliminator and set up a meeting with Dragons in the Qualifier 2 to be played on Wednesday.

Put into bat, Mystics were restricted to 122 for eight in 20 overs.

The scores:
Qualifier 1: Hubli Tigers 210/2 in 20 overs (Devdutt Padikkal 99 n.o., Mohammed Taha 37, Abhinav Manohar 50) bt Mangaluru Dragons 110 in 16.1 overs (Sreesha Achar 2/24, K.C. Cariappa 2/14, Ritesh Bhatkal 3/20, Yashraj Punja 2/30). **Toss:** Tigers; **PoM:** Padikkal.

Eliminator: Gulbarga Mystics 122/8 in 20 overs (Lavish Kaushal 35 n.o, Vidyadhar Patil 2/30) lost to Bengaluru Blasters 126/2 in 12.3 overs (L.R. Chethan 40, Suraj Ahuja 44 n.o.). **Toss:** Blasters; **PoM:** Chethan.

Turbo mode: Padikkal took a heavy toll of the Dragons attack. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



BUCHI BABU SCORES — ROUND 3, DAY 1

Group-A: TNCA President's XI 266 in 83.2 overs (R. Vimal Khumar 54, Pradosh Ranjan Paul 68, B. Indrajith 78, Shashank Tiwari 5/44) vs Chhattisgarh 4/0 in four overs; **Toss:** President's XI.

Maharashtra 440 in 90 overs (Arshin Kulkarni 146, Ruturaj Gaikwad 133, Harshal Kate 41, Prince Thakur 7/144) vs Himachal Pradesh; **Toss:** Maharashtra.
Group-B: Odisha 314 in 87.5 overs (Govind Poddar 74, Rajesh Dhupar 104, Kartik Biswal 53, Vanshaj Sharma 4/90, Abid Mushtaq 4/95) vs Jammu & Kashmir; **Toss:** J&K.
Railways 184 in 50 overs (Kush Marathe 52, Navneet Virk 76 n.o., Aryan Chavda 4/68) vs Baroda 76/3 in 38 overs; **Toss:** Railways.

Group-C: TNCA XI 203 in 61.4 overs (B. Sachin 57, R. Sonu Yadav 48, Rahul Prasad 5/44) vs Bengal 58/4 in 26 overs (D.T. Chandrasekar 3/25); **Toss:** TNCA XI.

Mumbai 346/9 in 90 overs (Divyaansh Saxena 46, Sarfaraz Khan 111, Shams Mulani 50 n.o., Tanush Kotian 48, Nikhil Kashyap 6/80) vs Haryana; **Toss:** Mumbai.

Group-D: Madhya Pradesh 181 in 56.5 overs (Aryan Tiwari 53, Rohith Rayudu 5/44) vs Hyderabad 155/1 in 33 overs (Tanmay Agarwal 85 batting, P. Nitish Reddy 41); **Toss:** MP.

Jharkhand 366/8 in 90 overs (Shikhar Mohan 105, Nazim Siddiqui 61, Kumar Suraj 64, Robin Minz 63) vs Punjab; **Toss:** Jharkhand.

Plucky Joshna books a semifinal meeting with Akanksha

SQUASH

Kamesh Srinivasan
NEW DELHI

The evergreen Joshna Chinappa was in a spot of bother, but shrugged off the lethargy to beat Unnati Tripathi 11-4, 8-11, 11-4, 11-4 in the quarterfinals of the HCL 81st National squash championship at the Dhyan Chand National Stadium here on Tuesday.

The 38-year-old Joshna, who has won a record 18 National titles and was ranked in the top-10 in the world at her prime, will be up against second seed Akanksha Salunkhe in the semifinals. Akanksha was in vibrant form as she raced past Shameena Riaz in straight games.

The other semifinal in the women's event will be between top seed and defending champion Anahat Singh, who dropped just five points against Pooja Arthi, and Tanvi Khanna.

Meanwhile, the Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI), along with its long-standing supporter HCL, felicitated the World and Asian medallists, and presented the players and coaches, a total cash award of ₹11 lakh.

Even though a bunch of youngsters won everyone's hearts for their impressive performances, the fiery foursome of Joshna Chinappa, Anahat Singh, Abhay Singh and Velavan Senthilkumar, came for universal applause for having swept all the three gold medals in the Asian doubles championship.

"Team events are always fun. It was special to be part of this team. It was fun playing doubles with Anahat as she is one of the most entertaining players on team," said Joshna.

The secretary general of SRFI, Cyrus Poncha, who conducted the function in a crisp way, praised Abhay Singh for winning an 89-minute marathon with Velavan, and quickly coming back to win the mixed doubles with Anahat.

Indian players had won two gold, three silver and three bronze for their best haul in the Asian junior championship in Korea, apart from medals in the Asian junior team championship in Hong Kong. They had also won two medals in the World junior championship in Cairo.

The results (quarterfinals):
Men: Abhay Singh bt Aryan Pratap Singh 11-4, 11-6, 11-3; Ramit Tandon bt Suraj Chand 11-9, 11-5, 11-3; Veer Chotrani bt Om Semwal 11-2, 11-6, 11-6; Velavan Senthilkumar bt Yash Fadte 11-6, 11-6, 11-8.
Women: Anahat Singh bt Pooja Arthi 11-3, 11-0, 11-2; Tanvi Khanna bt Sanya Vats 11-7, 11-8 (retd.); Joshna Chinappa bt Unnati Tripathi 11-4, 8-11, 11-4, 11-4; Akanksha Salunkhe bt Shameena Riaz 11-4, 11-4, 11-5.

Bouncing back: Joshna rallied to get the better of Unnati. KAMESH SRINIVASAN

Coaches give the thumbs up to PKL format changes

Anup.

Manpreet.

Anirudh Velamuri
HYDERABAD

The significant format changes introduced for Season 12 of the Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) got a vote of approval from Haryana Steelers' Manpreet Singh. The defending champion's head coach believes that all teams will now have a greater chance at making the playoffs.

"As a league gets bigger, such format revisions almost become a necessity. I think the changes are great. Teams that lag behind have a chance till the very end to make a comeback and keep fighting for the title. Compared to the past seasons, I think this one is going to be great because the game and those who play it have gotten faster. Fitness standards are incredible, and preparations have been going quite well," he said in a media interaction.

Manpreet's sentiments were echoed by his Patna Pirates counterpart Anup Kumar, who added that teams can now adjust to injury woes much better going forward.

"This additional opportunity of including two teams in the knockout bracket will give much relief to teams," he said.

Among the big talking points heading into the new season is B.C. Ramesh's move to Bengaluru Bulls, which parted ways with Randhir Singh Sehrawat, a seasoned coach who was with the side since the inaugural season and led it to the playoffs six times, winning the title once.

"There's a lot of pressure on me. I have a big responsibility now as the coach of Bengaluru Bulls. Last year's performance was very poor, which is why we created a new team with a different strategy."

Anchoring or accelerating, Pujara was a great fit at No. 3

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

Had Cheteshwar Pujara been in the team, it is possible India might have won the recent series in England.

Once skipper Shubman Gill decided he was batting at No. 4, there was need for experience and resilience one slot above. India lacked a No. 3 capable of the long innings, someone who allowed their many stroke players to bat around him displaying neither ego nor envy. It might have been an imaginative selection. Admittedly, Pujara was 37, and his batting had been on the decline, despite two centuries and an average of 62 for Sussex.

At any rate, it is easy to be wise after the event, and Pujara had already taken the well-trodden route from pitch to commentary box. But it is an intriguing might-have-been. Sometimes picking a 16-year-old is seen as an inspired selection; there aren't too many at the other end of the scale.

The late Bobby Simpson, recalled at 41, led Australia to a series win against India. Cyril Washbrook, then 41 and an England selector, was picked against Australia and scored 98 commenting drily, "another two would have done no harm." England won.

Traditional role

Pujara and his predecessor Rahul Dravid reinforced the traditional role of the No.3, the one batting slot largely unaffected by the demands of T20 cricket. In the line-up, that position is the one associated with efficiency rather than style, pragmatism rather than romance.

Walter Hammond, he of the silken cover drive, and occasionally the likes of Joe Root and Viv Richards have batted at three but Kumar Sangakkara, tough as nails, made the most runs from that position. He was the ideal modern No. 3 – left-handed, capable of both the long, defensive innings (he had 11 double centuries including a triple) and the short attacking one, and a superb reader of the game situation.

Garry Sobers made the then world record score of 365 at No. 3, as did Brian Lara who broke that record. It was the home of men like Don Bradman (who averaged over 100 there), and Ricky Ponting, whose wickets were most priced by the opposition, and who had the range and skill to knuckle down in defence or build on a good opening stand so those who followed found life easier.

Psychologically crucial

Possibly because the No. 3 tended to be the one controlling the innings, many of them have led their countries. Some have even opened the innings in emergencies – the theory (mistaken) being that if you are good enough to come in at the fall of the first wicket in the first over, then you are good enough to open.

This ignores the fact that No. 3 is not merely a physical position, an arithmetical necessity, but a psychologically crucial one calling for a set of unique attributes including the ability to anchor or accelerate as the situation demands.

Both Dravid and Pujara have opened, the former adding 410 with Virender Sehwag against Pakistan, and the latter carrying his bat against Sri Lanka, remaining unbeaten on 145 at the end of the innings.

Perhaps I exaggerated earlier about having Pujara in England. What we needed was someone Pujara-like, willing to take the body blows, frustrate bowlers and viewers alike. That last is merely a public perception, and like many such, is incorrect.

Pujara had a better strike rate than David Boon and Neil Harvey of Australia, England's Dennis Compton and around the same as Desmond Haynes of the West Indies, and New Zealand's Martin Crowe, all renowned for their stroke play and quick scoring. Pujara's first responsibility was to set the house in order before stepping out for fancy furniture and decorative lamps as it were.

Pujara belonged to one of the two strains of Indian batsmanship. There is the wristy magician, exemplified by Gundappa Vishwanath, Mohammed Azharuddin and V.V.S. Laxman, and the stout-hearted defensive rock in the line of Vijay Merchant, Sunil Gavaskar and Rahul Dravid. He lacked the grace of the former and the technical finesse of the latter, but his heart was as big as that of anybody who played for India.

During his 103-Test career, he was the obvious answer to the question often asked: Whom would you like to bat for your life?

Honey takes a two-shot lead

GOLF

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

Honey Baisoya set the mark at four-under 68 on the opening day of the ₹1 crore Kolar Open 2025 at the ZION Hills Golf County, near here on Tuesday.

Honey took a two-shot lead and established the course record at the new PGTI venue

Four players were bunched at tied second with scores of two-under 70 – Tapendra Ghai, Shaurya Bhattacharya, Aditya Mohan and Sri Lankan Prabagaran.

Honey Baisoya.